

# Allied Health Professionals



**Peter Buttrum**  
Executive Director  
Allied Health Professions

The Allied Health Professions (AHP) service line comprises the professions of Audiology, Nutrition and Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Orthotics and Prosthetics, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Rehabilitation Engineering, Social Work and Speech Pathology. The professions support RBWH clinical services lines within multiprofessional teams and aim to provide high quality and evidence based services across the continuum of care.

Aligned to the RBWH vision of being a world class academic health centre, Allied Health is committed to strengthening and facilitating the integration of research with clinical care. This research investment, along with ongoing education, underpins the evidence base, effectiveness, and efficiency of our service delivery, and the outcomes are aimed at transforming clinical service delivery within rapidly changing healthcare environments. Indeed, key achievements of 2015 include the integration of a research program into the evaluation of new innovative models of care within Allied Health (e.g., first contact Allied Health clinics).

A new model for developing AHP research was piloted in 2015 with appointment of a half time Director, Research AHP and a half time Research Co-ordinator. This model has enabled increased research capacity building and research support with a number of exciting new developments. Firstly, the development of training and mentoring programs as well as wider support for facilitating the application of research into practice. Furthermore, 2015 saw further growth within the Metro North Collaborative for Allied Health Research Learning and Innovation (CAHRLI) with the launch of the inaugural CAHRLI forum and the pre-PhD funding program

which facilitates Allied Health Professionals to progress to enrolment in a research higher degree.

Throughout 2015, Allied Health clinicians have continued to build on previous success in research outcomes. AHP staff were successful in authoring 60 publications in high quality peer reviewed journals, and attracting over a million dollars in external grant funding. Additionally staff presented over 77 invited presentations or posters at national and international conferences. There were also 11 Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) undertaking higher research degrees at RBWH while an additional 24 RHD students were supervised by RBWH AHPs.

Outstanding Allied Health research achievements for 2015 included Teresa Brown (Advanced Dietitian) being announced as the winner of the Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Research Scholarship in the Allied Health Sciences. Teresa's PhD research is the first study of its kind in Australia that examines the benefit of providing early nutrition support to patients with Head and Neck Cancer. Other outstanding achievements included Associate Professor Jennifer Paratz (Principal Research Fellow, Physiotherapy) being awarded the RBWH Distinguished Research Medal in 2016 for her long standing contribution to multidisciplinary research at RBWH. In addition, Dr Nicole Andrews (Occupational Therapy) was awarded her PhD and Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) was recognised at the Metro North Staff Excellence Awards for her pioneering research in telehealth models of care in Head and Neck Cancer.

We are extremely proud of our ongoing commitment to high quality research. We also appreciate and thank the contribution of our several University partners, without whom this level of research success would not be possible, and look forward to their ongoing collaboration. Finally, and most importantly, sincere thanks and congratulations are extended to all the Allied Health staff for their dedicated efforts and achievements in 2015.



**Teresa Brown**



**Dr Nicole Andrews**



**Assoc Prof Jenny Paratz**



**Clare Burns**

## Centre for Allied Health Research

The Centre for Allied Health Research (CAHR) is a network of Allied Health clinician researchers with a vision to build research capacity and to facilitate research advances which translate into real benefits for patients. CAHR currently comprises Allied Health researchers who are funded from RBWH as well as a research position which is funded by Metro North Hospital and Health Service. In 2015, there was a pilot of a new model of a half time Research Director Allied Health and half time Research Co-ordinator to facilitate research capacity building. Results of this pilot included the development of new training and mentoring programs culminating in significant growth in research activity and engagement of Allied Health Clinicians in the vision of research as core business for Allied Health.

Key activities of researchers within CAHR in 2015 included the evaluation of new innovative models of care (i.e., Allied Health first contact clinics) and supporting novice clinician researchers progress their innovative ideas into research programs. We are particularly proud of the significant number of Allied Health clinicians who disseminated their research outcomes in peer reviewed journals and conference abstracts for the first time in 2015. The research agenda of CAHR is wide ranging and encompasses collaborations with diverse group of university partners and other health services. One exemplar of the collaborative multidisciplinary research involving CAHR is the Quantitative Electroencephalography in Stroke (QuEST) research team. The QuEST study is a multi-disciplinary collaboration including Allied Health (i.e. Dr Simon Finnigan, Tennille Rowland), Neurology (i.e., Dr Andrew Wong), and the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR). The broad aims of this team and study are to improve early prognostication of functional outcomes from stroke, using a combination of routine clinical assessments and innovative methods for assessing brain dysfunction. In 2015, research outcomes from this multidisciplinary collaborative included publications and presentations (e.g., Annual Scientific Meeting of the Stroke Society of Australasia, Australasian Nursing and Allied Health Stroke Conference).

### Supervised Post-Graduate Research Students

| Name               | Current Studies University (duration) | Research Project Title   | Supervisors (RBWH staff in bold)                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Lachlan Standfield | PhD, Griffith University (2012–2016)  | Discrete event simulation modelling in capacity constrained health services  | Paul Scuffham, <b>Tracy Comans</b>                                     |
| Erin Pitt          | PhD, Griffith University (2012–2017)  | Dietary patterns of children in Australia  | <b>Tracy Comans</b> , Cate Cameron, Danielle Gallageos; Lukar Thornton |
| Darryn Marks       | PhD, Griffith University (2014–2018)  | A randomised controlled trial of an advanced physiotherapist injecting trial for shoulder pain   | Paul Scuffham, <b>Tracy Comans</b> ; Leanne Bissett                    |
| Michelle Periera   | PhD, UQ (2013–2017)                   | Economic evaluation of a neck pain intervention in office workers  | Venerina Johnson; <b>Tracy Comans</b>                                  |
| Ian Parker         | PhD, ACU (2014–2020)                  | Evaluation of an allied health led dizziness clinic  | Nancy Low Choy; <b>Tracy Comans</b> ; Ann Rahmann                      |
| Li Li              | PhD, Griffith University (2016–2019)  | Quality of life for people with dementia   | <b>Tracy Comans</b> , Kim Huong Nguyen                                 |
| Miia Rahja         | PhD, Flinders University (2016–2019)  | Interventions to support carers of people with dementia – the COPE study   | Kate Laver; Lindy Clemson; Maria Crotty; <b>Tracy Comans</b>           |
| Kathleen Hall      | MPhil, ACU (2016–2018)                | Model of care for people with Cystic Fibrosis  | Suzanne Kuys, <b>Tracy Comans</b>                                      |
| Emma Schleiger     | PhD (UQ) (2013–2016)                  | Investigating the ability of post-stroke EEG measures of brain dysfunction to inform early prediction of cognitive impairment or depression outcomes | <b>Simon Finnigan, Andrew Wong</b> , Stephen Read                      |

### Research Fellows

| Name         | Type of Fellowship | Research Program                              | University (years)              |
|--------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Tracy Comans | Conjoint Fellow    | Health Economics and Health services research | Griffith University (2015–2017) |



## Centre for Allied Health Research *(cont)*

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity

| RBWH Lead Researchers | Collaborative Researchers<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>                            | Research Project Title                            |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Tracy Comans          | Veronika Schoeb; Petrea Cornwell; Louise Gustafsson                                 | Discharge planning in Australia and Hong Kong     |
| Michelle Stute        | <b>Merrilyn Banks, Peter Buttrum, Simon Finnigan, Marita Plunkett, Tracy Comans</b> | Evaluation of first contact allied health clinics |

### Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers  | RBWH Researchers           | Research Project Title  |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Greta Hollis, Jack Bell   | Tracy Comans               | Effect of very low calorie diet prior to elective general surgery for obese patients                |
| Ansuyah Padayachee  | Tracy Comans               | Kilcoy Connect – using capacity in a regional hospital for geriatric rehabilitation                 |
| Kathleen Hall, Scott Bell, Suzanne Kuys, Nicole Bellet, Mark Roll, Robyn Cobb, Trent Donneley | Tracy Comans               | Evaluation of the utilization of an allied health assistant within an adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre. |
| James Walsh   | Jenny Paratz, Tracy Comans | Pulmonary rehabilitation  |

### Research Awards and Achievements

| Recipient                                      | Award  | Event                                  |
|--|--|--|
| Marita Plunkett, Peter Buttrum, Merrilyn Banks | Professor William Egerton Award for Medical Research | RBWH Healthcare Symposium October 2015 |



# Department of Nutrition and Dietetics

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## Research vision

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Our research vision is to be leaders in dietetic research, with the overall aim of providing excellent and evidence-based nutrition and dietetic services for inpatients and outpatients of the RBWH. This is achieved through developing capacity within the department to support all dietitians to engage in research at all levels of the process (i.e. research consumers, participants and generators) and building strong relationships and research networks with researchers across RBWH, MN and universities.

## Benefits for patients

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Our research agenda is based on improving the nutrition and health of our patients through knowledge generation and knowledge translation to ensure we are delivering evidence based dietetic care. Specifically our research has led to enhanced prevention and treatment of malnutrition and pressure injuries through supportive meal time environments, appropriate provision of hospital foodservices and medical nutrition therapy, and the implementation of post discharge procedures. For patients with a diagnosis of cancer, appropriate treatment with early supportive enteral nutrition prevents nutritional decline, improves recovery and patient outcomes. Through a greater understanding of factors impacting on excess weight in pregnancy, appropriate health services can be delivery to prevent and manage excess weight which is associated with chronic disease in women and children throughout the life course.

## Achievements

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2015 has been another successful year for research in Nutrition and Dietetics. As a department (and in collaboration with our research partnerships), we have been awarded funding in excess of \$2.6mill in competitive national and local research grants, and have published a further 17 peer-reviewed research papers and 16 oral research presentations at national and international conferences. Three of our clinicians are completing research higher degrees, with a further five PhD students supervised by researchers in our department. Members of our department have been awarded three prestigious national awards, including the Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Research Scholarship in Allied Health Science awarded to Teresa Brown.

## Research collaborations

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Our department has strong research networks within RBWH, Metro North HHS and beyond. Locally, we collaborate with Internal Medicine, Cancer Care, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Women's and Newborn, and Nursing and Midwifery Services at RBWH. We partner with a number of universities to conduct research and supervise research students (undergraduate, Masters and PhD). Academic partners include QUT; UQ; Griffith University; University of Sunshine Coast (USC), Australian Catholic University (ACU) and QIMR. State-wide, national and international networks include: Australasian Society of Parental and Enteral Nutrition (AuSPEN); European Society of Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN), Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Research Centre (ANZIC-RC); as well as Nursing Research Centre of Excellence, and collaborations with other hospitals, including PAH and TPCH.

## Department of Nutrition and Dietetics *(cont)*

### Supervised Post-Graduate Research Students

| Name            | Current Studies University<br><i>(duration)</i>          | Research Project Title   | Supervisors<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>                      |
|-----------------|--|--|---|
| Teresa Brown    | PhD, (UQ) (2011–16)                                      | Does early commencement of nutrition support in patients with head and neck cancer improve outcomes?   | Judy Bauer, <b>Merrilyn Banks, Brett Hughes</b>                 |
| Skye Marshall   | PhD, Bond University (2012–16)                           | Malnutrition in the Australian Rural Rehabilitation Community  | Elisabeth Isenring, <b>Adrienne Young</b>                       |
| Angela Byrnes   | PhD, UQ (2015–18)  | Eat Walk Engage: nutritional outcomes in older surgical patients   | Judy Bauer, <b>Adrienne Young, Merrilyn Banks, Alison Mudge</b> |
| Sarah Andersen  | MPhil, UQ (2015–16)                                      | Does early proactive enteral nutrition improve outcomes post allogeneic stem cell transplantation – A randomized comparison to standard care | Judy Bauer, <b>Merrilyn Banks</b>                               |
| Nerida Hart     | PhD, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) (2015–18) | Determining the quality attributes of acute care hospital food services systems  | <b>Mary Hannan-Jones, Merrilyn Banks</b>                        |
| Claire Nelson   | PhD, QUT (2014–16)                                       | Investigation of nutrition status of community adults with lower leg wounds  | <b>Merrilyn Banks, Mary Hannan-Jones, Kathleen Findlayson</b>   |
| Quoc Quong Tran | PhD, QUT (2014–17)                                       | Nutritional status of patients in Vietnamese hospitals   | Daniell Gallegos, <b>Merrilyn Banks, Mary Hannan-Jones</b>      |
| Shelley Roberts | PhD, Griffith University (2011–15)                       | Nutrition in prevention of pressure ulcers in hospitalised patients  | Wendy Chaboyer, Ben Desbrow, <b>Merrilyn Banks</b>              |

### Research Fellows

| Name              | Type of Fellowship                                     | Research Program  | University <i>(years)</i>                             |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| Merrilyn Banks    | NHMRC Health Professional Research Training Fellowship | Efficacy and cost effectiveness of nutrition in healing pressure ulcers           | Queensland University of Technology (QUT) (2012-2015) |
| Adrienne Young    | Research Coordinator                                   | Nutrition in Older Adults   | QUT (2013 – current)                                  |
| Susie de Jersey   | Research Coordinator                                   | Nutrition in Obstetric patients   | QUT (2013 – current)                                  |
| Lynda Ross        | Visiting Fellow  | Healthy Eating and Lifestyle Program (HELP) intervention evaluation and follow up | Griffith University (2014-current)                    |
| Mary Hannan-Jones | Honorary Research Fellow                               | Improving quality of Food Services  | Senior Lecturer, QUT (2014 – current)                 |

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity

| RBWH Lead Researchers | Collaborative Researchers<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>  | Research Project Title  |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Paula MacDermott      | Chris Chapman-Kiddell, Lynda Ross (Griffith), Anita Pelecanos (QIMR Berghofer), <b>Graham Radford-Smith (Gastroenterology)</b>                    | Is there any correlation between dietary patterns in Inflammatory Bowel Disorder and genetics pre-diagnosis?  |
| Teresa Brown          | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Charles Lin (Cancer Care), Liz Kenny (Cancer Care)</b> , Judy Bauer (UQ) | A randomized comparison of early prophylactic feeding via gastrostomy versus standard care in high risk patients with head and neck cancer (2012-current) |
| Teresa Brown          | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Charles Lin (Cancer Care), Liz Kenny (Cancer Care)</b> , Judy Bauer (UQ) | Impact of non-adherence to swallow and nutrition guidelines for head and neck cancer  |
| Teresa Brown          | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Charles Lin (Cancer Care), Liz Kenny (Cancer Care)</b> , Judy Bauer (UQ) | Investigation of p16 (HPV) status, chemotherapy regimen and other nutrition markers for predicting gastrostomy in patients with head and neck cancer      |

## Department of Nutrition and Dietetics *(cont)*

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity *(cont)*

| RBWH Lead Researchers           | Collaborative Researchers<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>   | Research Project Title  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Claire Blake                    | <b>Teresa Brown (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , Rainbow Lai (UQ), <b>Laura Moroney (SP)</b> , <b>Jennifer Helios (SP)</b> , <b>Brett Hughes (Cancer Care)</b> , <b>Liz Kenny (Cancer Care)</b> , Anita Pelecanos (QIMR Berghofer)  | Nutrition outcomes and toxicities from tomotherapy in head and neck cancer patients   |
| Teresa Brown                    | Aaron Chan (UQ), <b>Kathleen Dwyer (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Brett Hughes (Cancer Care)</b> , Judy Bauer (UQ), <b>Charles Lin (Cancer Care)</b> , <b>Liz Kenny (Cancer Care)</b> , <b>Jane Crombie (Speech Path)</b> , <b>Ann-Louise Spurgin (Speech Path)</b>                      | Revalidation of swallow and nutrition guidelines in tomotherapy   |
| Sarah Andersen                  | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Glen Kennedy (Cancer Care)</b> , <b>Teresa Brown (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Nicholas Weber (Cancer Care)</b> , <b>Geoff Hill (Cancer Care)</b> , Judy Bauer (UQ)  | Does early proactive enteral nutrition improve outcomes post allogeneic stem cell transplantation - A randomized comparison to standard care (2015-current) |
| Susie de Jersey                 | <b>A/Prof Leonie Callaway (UQ, IMS)</b> , Dr Lynda Ross (Griffith Uni), <b>Taylor Guthrie (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Jeanette Tyler (Women's and Newborn)</b> , <b>Nickie Moreton (Women's and Newborn)</b> , <b>Dr Karen New (UQ, Women's and Newborn)</b> , <b>Janelle Laws (Women's and Newborn)</b>                                | Evaluation of workforce training to support Healthy Pregnancy Healthy Baby  |
| Susie de Jersey                 | <b>A/Prof Leonie Callaway (UQ, IMS)</b> , <b>Taylor Guthrie (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Jeanette Tyler (Women's and Newborn)</b> , <b>Nickie Moreton (Women's and Newborn)</b> , <b>Dr Karen New (UQ, Women's and Newborn)</b>  | Efficacy of a low intensity consumer held pregnancy weight monitoring tool to prevent excess gestational weight gain  |
| Angela Byrnes                   | <b>Adrienne Young (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Alison Mudge (IMS)</b> , Judy Bauer (UQ)  | Investigating the nutritional status and care of older ( $\geq 65$ years) patients on two general surgical wards: A multiphase, action research study       |
| Adrienne Young                  | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Jo Roddick (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Kate Morgan (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Tayla Robertson (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , Danielle Gallegos (QUT)  | Nutritional care in hospital:<br><i>What is the patient experience?</i>   |
| Claire Blake                    | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Mark Appleyard (Gastroenterology)</b>   | Cost effectiveness of Dietitian-led PEG service   |
| Merrilyn Banks                  | <b>Joan Webster</b> , <b>Kathleen Dwyer</b> , Sandra Capra (UQ), Judy Bauer (UQ), Melanie Bannister (Wesley), Donna Hickling (TPCH), Amy Nevin (PAH)   | Healing Pressure Ulcers: <i>Efficacy and cost effectiveness of nutrition</i> (Phase II)   |
| Melissa Eastgate (Cancer Care)  | <b>David Wyld (Cancer Care)</b> , <b>Teresa Brown (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b>  | Patient perceptions of diet and cancer – Survey of cancer care patients   |
| Alison Mudge (IMS)              | <b>Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Prue McRae (IMS)</b> , <b>Adrienne Young (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> <b>Adrian Barnett (QUT)</b> , Irene Blackberry (Latrobe), Ann Chang (QUT), Nick Graves (QUT), Ruth Hubbard (UQ), Sharon Inouye (Harvard), Sue Kurrle (Uni of Sydney), Kwan Lim (Uni of Melbourne), Nancy Peel (UQ) | CHERISH Collaborative for Hospitalised Elders: <i>Reducing the Impact of Stays in Hospital</i>  |
| Priya Cherien (Medical Imaging) | <b>Claire Blake (Nutrition and Dietetics)</b> , <b>Mark Appleyard (Gastro)</b>   | Radiologically inserted gastrostomy (RIG) an Interventional Radiology Procedure that promotes high value healthcare   |



## Department of Nutrition and Dietetics (cont)

### Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers                        | RBWH Researchers  | Research Project Title  |
|---|---|---|
| Louise Cooney (PAH)                                   | Teresa Brown (Nutrition and Dietetics), Eliza Kern (Nutrition and Dietetics), Suzie Ahern (Nutrition and Dietetics), Liz Kenny (Cancer Care), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care)                            | Comparison of nutrition and clinical outcomes in HandN cancer patients following reactive and proactive nutrition support approaches                        |
| Loris Pironi (Home Artificial Nutrition Group, ESPEN) | Emma Osland (Nutrition and Dietetics)   | International benchmarking of Home Parenteral Nutrition service provision and validation of ESPEN chronic intestinal failure classifications.               |
| Cristal Newman (South West HHS)                       | Adrienne Young (Nutrition and Dietetics)  | Can an AHA deliver the SGA with the same reliability and confidence as an APD?  |
| Lynda Ross (Griffith)                                 | Robin Hay (Nutrition and Dietetics)   | Healthy Eating and Lifestyle Program (HELP) intervention evaluation and follow up   |
| Wendy Chaboyer (Griffith)                             | Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics), Joan Webster (Nursing and Midwifery)  | INTACT trial: Care bundle to prevent pressure injuries  |
| Rosa Hand (Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, USA)   | Merrilyn Banks, Adrienne Young (Nutrition and Dietetics)  | Validation of the adult malnutrition clinical characteristics (MCC)   |
| Judy Bauer (UQ)                                       | Teresa Brown (Nutrition and Dietetics), Merrilyn Banks (Nutrition and Dietetics), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Charles Lin (Cancer care), Liz Kenny (Cancer Care), Louise Campbell (Qld PET Service) | Comparison of body composition methods in head and neck cancer patients undergoing chemoradiotherapy – PET-CT vs BIA  |
| Gary Slater, Jude Maher (USC)                         | Susan de Jersey (Nutrition and Dietetics)   | The CHANGE study (body Composition, pPhysical Activity, pregNancy, enerGy metabolism, diEt); Investigating womens' body composition change during pregnancy |
| Jude Maher, Lauren Hurst (USC)                        | Susan de Jersey (Nutrition and Dietetics)   | Health priorities of women during pregnancy: <i>A discrete choice experiment</i>  |

### Research Awards and Achievements

| Recipient   | Award  | Event   |
|---|--|---|
| Dept of Nutrition and Dietetics   | PEN Evidence Based Practice Prize, highly commended; Dietitians Association of Australia | N/A   |
| Posthauer, Mary Ellen<br>Banks, Merrilyn<br>Dorner, Becky<br>Schols, Jos M. G. A. | 2015 Roberta S. Abruzzese Publishing Award   | Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care |
| Teresa Brown  | Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Research Scholarship in Allied Health Sciences               | N/A   |

## Department of Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy, RBWH aims to use research and evidence in daily practice to maximise patient outcomes. Occupational Therapy works collaboratively with health care consumers, internal and external stakeholders through local and service-wide networks. The Occupational Therapy service has recently introduced local clinical networks, “lunch and learn sessions” to facilitate the development of knowledge and skills and the independent application of these skills to clinical practice. We aim to influence the knowledge base applied to Occupational Therapy practice, practice guidelines and service developments.

The clinical benefits of the 2015 research projects include:

1. Identifying factors which predict adherence to pressure garments for patients with burns.
2. Evaluation of the effectiveness of conservative management of carpal tunnel syndrome as an alternative pathway of care.
3. Development of tools and training methods to support the development of Occupational Therapy.
4. Application of activity pacing as a treatment strategy to reduce the development of habitual overactive behaviour in patients with chronic pain.

The Queensland Allied Health Profession’s Office funds HP Research Grants on an annual basis and Kirsten Cook, Advanced Occupational Therapist, Hand Therapy was successful in 2015 to investigate the impact of this service on the waiting times for treatment for carpal tunnel syndrome and the cost effectiveness of Primary Contact Occupational Therapy services. Dr Nicole Andrews et al 2015, “It’s very hard to change yourself: an exploration of overactivity in people with chronic pain using interpretative phenomenological analysis” was nominated as the most cited article in PAIN Journal.

Occupational Therapy partners with UQCCR, University of Queensland Medical School, the RBWH departments of Neurology and the Professor Cramond Multi Disciplinary Pain clinic with this year’s current research projects.

Investing new models of care is a priority for the ongoing care of Queenslanders and the conservative management of patients with carpal tunnel syndrome has been newly introduced and is being evaluated. A patient experience of this pathway is as follows;



“ After living with constant pain, anxiety and depression associated with having no use of my hands, due to having carpal tunnel. I was referred to a occupational therapist. I went with a heavy heart, not expecting much. But after being seen by an OT given exercises, advice, and a whole lot more, my life has improved so much. After my second visit, I can now do all activities that I couldn't do before. I now jump out of bed and look forward to my day. Can't wait until my next visit. Occupational therapy rules. ”

Evaluation of these clinics is being expanded to include nine other sites around the state of Queensland.



## Department of Occupational Therapy *(cont)*

### Supervised Post-Graduate Research Students

| Name             | Current Studies University<br><i>(duration)</i>           | Research Project Title   | Supervisors<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>                       |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| Nicole Coghlan   | MPhil   | Factors affecting adherence to compression garments in an adult burns population   | <b>Sue Laracy</b> , Jenny Strong, Jodie Copely, Tammy Aplin      |
| Michelle Donovan | MPhil (2010–2016)   | Improving donor site epithelisation and scar maturation times following split skin grafting in Burns patients: <i>A novel research study using compression therapy</i> | <b>Michael Muller</b> , <b>Jennifer Paratz</b> , Zephania Tyack. |
| Sarah Kekki      | Masters in Clinical Rehabilitation<br>Flinders University | Intensity of UL practice in occupational therapy treatment in adult stroke population.   | <b>Sue Laracy</b> , Chris Barr, <b>Giovanna Tornatore</b>        |

### Research Fellows

| Name           | Type of Fellowship                 | Research Program | University <i>(years)</i> |
|----------------|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Nicole Coghlan | Crammond Fellow In Pain Management | M Phil           | UQ                        |



## Department of Occupational Therapy (cont)

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity

| RBWH Lead Researchers | Collaborative Researchers<br>(RBWH staff in bold)  | Research Project Title  |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Kirsten Cook          | <b>Sue Laracy</b> , <b>Shireen Senewiratne</b>   | Occupational Therapy in the Treatment of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome for Patients Referred for Surgical Opinion in an Australian Public Hospital |
| Tennille Rowland      | <b>Sue Laracy</b> , <b>Giovanna Tornatore</b> , <b>Beverley Lewis</b> , Simon Finnigan                                 | Occupational therapy stroke audit: Measuring compliance of occupational therapy practice with evidence-based guidelines                     |
| Sue Laracy            | Cate Fitzgerald, <b>Bev Lewis</b>  | Supporting the transition to practice of new graduate occupational therapist using a clinical education framework.                          |
| Nicole Andrews        | Jenny Strong, Pamela Meredith, <b>Julia Fleming</b> , Kellie Gordon, Karl Bagraith, Genevieve Donohue, Rachel D'Arrigo | An Exploration of Overactivity in Chronic Pain  |
| Robyn Scheer          | <b>Emma Foley</b> , <b>Nicole Andrews</b> , <b>Sue Laracy</b>  | The effect of limb position on leg circumference measurements in patients diagnosed with lower limb lymphoedema.                            |



### Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers | RBWH Researchers   | Research Project Title   |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Emma Schleiger (UQCCR)         | <b>Tennille Rowland (Occ Therapy)</b> , Simon Finnigan (UQCCR), <b>Andrew Wong (Neurology)</b> | Quantitative EEG in Stroke: Role of quantitative EEG in diagnosis, prognostication and management of acute stroke. |

### Research Awards and Achievements

| Recipient   | Award                              | Event |
|---|------------------------------------|-------|
| Nicole Andrews, Jenny Strong, Pamela Meredith, Kellie Gordon, Karl Bagraith | PAIN's 2015 most cited paper award | -     |

## Department of Physiotherapy

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The Department of Physiotherapy provides clinical services to both inpatients and outpatients of RBWH who have, or potentially have, an underlying movement dysfunction resulting from injury, disease or life changes. RBWH physiotherapists provide a wide range of clinical services across a variety of quaternary, tertiary and secondary services including medicine, surgery, neurosurgery, orthopaedics, critical care, burns, rehabilitation, trauma services, oncology, obstetrics, gynaecology, neonatology and other musculoskeletal, neurological and cardiorespiratory specialties.

2015 was another outstanding year for the Department of Physiotherapy with 22 peer reviewed publications, one book chapter, 16 conference presentations and over \$700,000 in research grants. A large contributing factor to the ongoing high level of research output, was the continuation of conjoint Research Fellow appointments with both UQ's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and Griffith University's School of Allied Health Sciences. The department was very fortunate to retain Dr Shaun O'Leary for a further 3 years in the UQ conjoint Research Fellow position and Dr Jennifer Paratz continued to excel in the GU conjoint Research Fellow position, winning the 2015 Distinguished Research Medal at the RBWH Symposium. Further recognition for research achievement was attained by Dr Peter Thomas and Ms Julie Adsett, who received awards at the National Allied Health Conference, and the Australian Physiotherapy Association National Conference respectively.

In addition to the conjoint Research Fellow partnerships, the Physiotherapy Department continued to build research collaborations with a wide range of academic partners locally, nationally and internationally, as well as other clinical service providers within RBWH, and externally with health service providers and professional associations on a national level.

The continued involvement of both dedicated research staff and clinical staff in the department's research program has ensured that research benefits are directly transferrable into clinical practice. The key areas of research focus for 2015 have been musculoskeletal conditions, acute and chronic respiratory conditions, critical care, burns, persistent pain, vestibular rehabilitation, pelvic floor dysfunction, telerehabilitation and physiotherapy prescribing. As a point of focus, many of these areas of research have supported the development of expanded primary contact physiotherapy practice, which has delivered improved access for consumers to high quality and efficient care.





## Department of Physiotherapy *(cont)*

### Supervised Post-Graduate Research Students

| Name               | Current Studies University<br><i>(duration)</i> | Research Project Title  | Supervisors<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>                                 |
|--------------------|---|---|--|
| Julie Adsett       | PhD, Griffith University<br>(2012–2018)         | Aquatic versus land based exercise training for people with stable heart failure  | Norm Morris,<br><b>Jennifer Paratz</b>                                     |
| Ian Parker         | PhD, ACU (2013–2018)                            | Clinical and Cost effectiveness analysis of the RBWH Vestibular Screening and Rehabilitation Service model of care  | Nancy Low Choy   |
| Peter Window       | PhD, UQ (2014–2017)                             | Can Kinematic based measures of the lumbo-pelvic-hip complex detect differences in motor function in individuals with chronic low back pain and healthy controls? | <b>Shaun O’Leary</b> , Kylie Tucker,<br>Paul Hodges                        |
| Sonia Sam          | PhD, UQ (2011–TBC)                              | Cardiovascular Function in Preterm Infants and relationship to developmental outcome  | Barbara Lingwood   |
| Orlando Flores     | PhD, UQ (2014–2018)                             | Metabolism in Burn Survivors  | <b>Jennifer Paratz</b> ,<br>Zehpanie Tyack (UQ),<br>Kellie Stockton (LCCH) |
| Lauren O’Connor    | MPhil, Griffith University<br>(2015–2017)       | The passey –Muir Valve, acute effects   | Norm Morris, <b>Jennifer Paratz</b>  |
| Maureen Peasy      | MPhil (TPCH) (2014–2016)                        |   | Norm Morris, <b>Jennifer Paratz</b>  |
| Jemima Boyd        | MMedSc (Griffith) (2016–2018)                   | Cardio output during exercise on vasopressor support  | <b>Jennifer Paratz</b> , James Walsh                                       |
| Bernie Bissett     | PhD (UQ) (2102–2015)                            | Respiratory muscle training in intubated patients   | <b>Jennifer Paratz</b> , <b>Rob Boots</b> ,<br>Anne Ledescike              |
| Michelle Spermon   | MPhil (2012–2105)                               | Pressure support to donor sites   | <b>Jennifer Paratz</b> ,<br><b>Michael Muller</b> ,<br>Zephanie Tyack      |
| Judith Bellapart   | PhD (2013–2017)                                 | Anaemia in head injury  | <b>Jennifer Partaz</b> , <b>Rob Boots</b> ,<br>John Fraser                 |
| Jennifer Sanderson | MPhil, Griffith University,<br>(2014–2016)      | Evaluating the effect of applying sustained thumb pressure to lymphoedema tissue using ultrasound: A review of the pitting test.                                  | <b>Hildegard</b> , <b>Reul-Hirche</b>                                      |

### Research Fellows

| Name            | Type of Fellowship | Research Program  | University <i>(years)</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Jennifer Paratz | Conjoint Fellow    | TBC   | Griffith University       |
| Shaun O’Leary   | Conjoint Fellow    | Investigating management strategies for the management of musculoskeletal disorders | UQ                        |

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity

| RBWH Lead Researchers | Collaborative Researchers<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>  | Research Project Title  |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Mark Cruickshank      | Mark Nelson (QEII), Tania Cavanagh (Cairns Hospital), <b>Maree Raymer</b> , Rod Ellem (Robina Hospital), Nicole Bellet (TPCH), Cherie Hearn (PAH), Dean Blond (GCUH), Lisa Nissen (QUT) | Physiotherapy Defined Scope of Practice (Prescribing) Trial                                 |
| Jennifer Paratz       | <b>Anita Plaza (Physiotherapy)</b> , <b>Michael Muller (Surgery)</b> , Justin Kenardy (UQ), Orlando Flores (UQ)   | IMPACT – Burns the physical and psychological effects of exercise in burn survivors: an RCT |
| Michael Muller        | <b>Jennifer Paratz</b> , Jason Roberts (UQ), Orlando Flores (UQ)  | Adrenergic blockade in burns  |

## Department of Physiotherapy (cont)

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity (cont)

| RBWH Lead Researchers   | Collaborative Researchers<br>(RBWH staff in bold)   | Research Project Title   |
|---|---|--|
| Jennifer Paratz   | <b>Michael Muller (Surgery)</b> , Sanjoy Paul (QIMR Berghofer),<br><b>John Younger (Cardiology)</b>   | Cardiovascular risk in Burns   |
| Jennifer Paratz   | <b>Rob Boots (RBWH, Thoracic medicine)</b> , Geetha Kayambu<br>(NUH, Singapore)   | i-Perform Early rehabilitation in critically ill<br>Sepsis patients  |
| Jennifer Paratz   | <b>Rob Boots (Thoracic Medicine)</b> ,<br>Justin Kenardy (UQ), Fiona Coyer (QUT), <b>Peter Thomas<br/>(RBWH)</b> ,<br><b>Sonia Sam (RBWH)</b> ,<br>Sunil Singh (Bundaberg Hospital) | IMPOSE – Follow up clinic of critically ill<br>patients post sepsis  |
| Michael Muller  | <b>Jennifer Paratz (RBWH)</b> , Hana Burianova (UQ), David<br>Reutens (UQ),<br><b>Joel Dulhunty (RBWH)</b>  | Prevention of Burns fMRI investigation of<br>optimal media messages  |
| Jennifer Paratz   | <b>Peter Thomas (RBWH)</b> ,<br>Kellie Stockton (LCCH)  | Saline installation in intubated patients  |
| Jennifer Paratz   | <b>Rob Boots (RBWH)</b> ,<br><b>Michael Muller (Surgery)</b>  | Inhalation and right heart failure in burns  |
| Jennifer Paratz   | Kellie Stockton (LCCH),<br><b>Rob Boots (RBWH)</b>  | Exercise testing in the chronically critically ill<br>patient  |
| Jennifer Paratz   | <b>Peter Thomas (RBWH)</b> , George Ntoumenopolous (SUT), Alice<br>Jones (Griffith), Antonio Torres (University of Barcelona),<br>Gianluigi Li Bassi (University of Barcelona)      | Waveform detection of secretion retention in<br>intubated patients   |
| Shaun O'Leary   | Stephen McPhail, Tracey Comans,<br><b>Marie Raymer</b> , A. Khan.   | Optimising patient selection and resource<br>utilization<br>for the non-surgical management of common<br>orthopaedic conditions  |
| Shaun O'Leary   | Stephen McPhail, V. Kuipers,<br>Megan Dalton.   | Do clinicians have the necessary skills<br>to facilitate optimal utilisation of<br>health services by patients with chronic<br>musculoskeletal disorders?                  |
| Shaun O'Leary   | Gwen Jull, Stephen McPhail, <b>Glen Volker</b> , Peter Tonks  | Physical Therapy for Neck Pain – Are we<br>moving in the right direction?  |
| Peter Window  | <b>Shaun O'Leary</b> , Tucker, Paul Hodges  | Can Kinematic based measures of the<br>lumbo-pelvic-hip complex detect differences<br>in motor function in individuals with chronic<br>low back pain and healthy controls? |
| Charlotte Hockey  | <b>Jenny Paratz</b> , Andre Van Zundert,  | Does objective measurement of tracheal<br>tube cuff pressures minimise adverse effects<br>and maintain accurate cuff pressures? A<br>systematic review and meta-analysis.  |
| Fiona Coyer (RBWH ICU, QUT),<br>Anthony Holley<br>(RBWH ICU), Peter Thomas<br>(RBWH Physiotherapy),<br>Greg McNamara (RBWH ICU) | Jessica Ingleman (QUT), Christina Parker (QUT)<br>Chris Edwards (QUT), Mohsina Khatun (UQ)  | Critically ill patient tissue reperfusion in two<br>body positions<br>and varied timed periods of load: EXTREME<br>pressure 2 study  |

## Department of Physiotherapy (cont)

### Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers   | RBWH Researchers             | Research Project Title  |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Sandra Brauer (UWQ)  | Jennifer Paratz (RBWH)       | Treadmill training in the stroke patient  |
| Sue Berney (Austin Hospital)   | Jennifer Paratz (RBWH)       | e-stimcycle – early rehabilitation in the sepsis patient  |
| Simon Miller, Allison Mandrusiak   | Julie Adsett                 | Getting to the heart of the matter: What is the landscape of exercise rehabilitation for people with heart failure in Australia?                    |
| Elise Gane   | Shaun O'Leary                | Identifying risk factors for poor functional recovery of the neck and shoulder after neck dissection surgery in patients with head and neck cancer  |
| Deokhoon Jun   | Shaun O'Leary                | A longitudinal study of risk factors for neck pain in office workers  |
| Tracy Comans   | Shaun O'Leary, Maree Raymer  | Are physiotherapy led screening clinics cost effective in improving orthopaedic outpatient services?  |
| Venerina Johnston  | Shaun O'Leary                | A workplace-based exercise intervention to prevent and reduce the economic and personal burden of non-specific neck pain in the office personnel    |
| Yaheli Bet-Or  | Shaun O'Leary                | Is there a difference in scapular kinematics between healthy controls and people with chronic neck pain?  |
| Khalid Jaber   | Shaun O'Leary                | Pain sensory and psychological predictors of response to total knee replacement:  |
| Xiaoqi Chen  | Shaun O'Leary                | Prevention and reduction of neck pain in office workers and the effect of a workplace- based intervention   |
| Olivia Galea   | Shaun O'Leary                | The role of cervical musculoskeletal impairment in concussion   |
| Michelle Cottrell  | Shaun O'Leary                | Evaluating the impact of a telerehabilitation model of care in an orthopedic screening and multidisciplinary service                                |
| Hyunmi Kim   | Shaun O'Leary                | The Relationship between Neck Posture, Motor Control and Neck Muscle Performance in Patients with Chronic Neck Pain                                 |
| Yuan Qi Lim  | Shaun O'Leary                | Does flexibility influence posture and symptom severity in neck pain patients?  |
| Matthew Linnane (TPCH), Amanda Corley (TPCH), Amy Spooner (TPCH), Lawrence Caruana (TPCH), Oystein Tronstad (TPCH), James Walsh (TPCH), John Fraser (TPCH) | Peter Thomas (Physiotherapy) | A comparison of the effects of manual hyperinflation and ventilator hyperinflation on restoring end expiratory lung volume after airway suctioning. |

### Research Awards and Achievements

| Recipient   | Award                                      | Event   |
|---|--|---|
| Jennifer Paratz   | Distinguished Research Medal               | RBWH Symposium 2015   |
| Julie Adsett  | Best e-poster (Cardiorespiratory category) | Australian Physiotherapy Association National Conference Oct 2015 |
| Elizabeth Skinner, Julie Reeve, Peter Thomas (RBWH Physiotherapy), Shane Patman | Best Oral Presentation                     | National Allied Health Conference Melbourne, 2015.                |



# Department of Rehabilitation Engineering

2015 saw the start of two new collaborative research ventures for Rehabilitation Engineering. Rehabilitation Engineering took part in the Extreme Pressure study in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) led by Professor Fiona Coyer from the QUT School of Nursing. The aims of this pilot study were to investigate and understand the relationships between healthy and unwell subjects across a number of parameters. Rehabilitation Engineering contributed expertise in the measurement and interpretation of interface pressure data. Interface pressure mapping has been used for designing custom wheelchair cushions for many years at the RBWH. In this study, pressure mapping was used to confirm “at risk” skin areas in a number of common nursing positions used in ICU. It is hoped that Rehabilitation Engineering can continue to participate in future work with this project.

In June 2015, Rehabilitation Engineering partnered with Children’s Health Queensland through the Queensland Paediatric Rehabilitation Service at the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital, to investigate the use of tele-health to provide remote assessment of assistive technology needs. This project is working towards developing training resources as well as trialing and evaluating the possibilities of remote assessment and manufacture. Results are planned to be presented in two national conferences in 2016.

Rehabilitation Engineering has also continued working with the Spinal Outreach Team as part of the State wide spinal cord injury service. Following on from the collaborative research project published in 2014, the research group continued to collect data through 2015.

The strong links with the QUT have also remained with the continuation of the Adjunct Associate Professor role in the Science and Engineering Faculty. The aim of this role is to develop the design course for the medical engineering degree.

## Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers | RBWH Researchers                            | Research Project Title                         |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Fiona Coyer (QUT)              | Peter Slattery (Rehabilitation Engineering) | Extreme Pressure Study                         |
| Shailendra Maharaj (CHQ)       | Peter Slattery (Rehabilitation Engineering) | Tele-rehabilitation: Measuring from a Distance |



## Department of Social Work and Psychology

The Department of Social Work Services has an increased focus on developing the capacity and capability of social workers at RBWH to engage in research activity. In 2015, a survey was conducted in Social Work to ascertain levels of confidence and training needs of social workers to engage in research. Overall responses showed staff had very low confidence to undertake research activity. Results of the survey also evidenced a need for staff to have training opportunities and education in the fundamentals of how to conceptualise research as part of everyday social work practice. That has provided a platform for the research direction of the Social Work Department moving forward into 2016.

In an increasingly complex and challenging health environment, patients benefit from our research as it provides a solid foundation upon which to base social work interventions. A research framework also allows us to embed evaluation into new programs and projects, so providing data upon which to base improvements in caring for patients and their families.

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity

| RBWH Lead Researchers  | Collaborative Researchers<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i> | Research Project Title  |
|--|--|---|
| Angela O'Malia, Suzette Fox, Amanda Masters                          |  | Social Work at The Coal Face in Management of Disaster Recover Work: Ravenshoe    |
| Dr Charan Bale, Dr Dwarakanathan Ranganathan, Sonny Huynh, Linh Pham |  | Social Issues identified in CKD patients at a tertiary health centre in Australia |
| Elisabeth Hamernik   | <b>RBWH psychology staff</b>                             | Clinical utility of the DSM-5 cross-cutting measure in a medical setting          |

### Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers   | RBWH Researchers  | Research Project Title  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Dr Stefan Blum (Mater and UQCCR) | <b>Kate Thompson (Psychology), James Scott (Mental Health), Dr Donna Spooner (Psychology)</b> | Anti-NMDA-receptor encephalitis: An Australian case series examining patterns and predictors of cognitive outcomes. |



# Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology

The Speech Pathology and Audiology Department provides tertiary and quaternary level clinical services to adult inpatients and outpatients with swallowing and/or communication disorders of varying complexity and aetiology as well as providing audiology services to patients with otologic conditions. Services are provided at the RBWH Acute Hospital, the Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit, and the Geriatric Assessment and Rehabilitation Unit, Rosemount.

The Department participates in a range of specialist multidisciplinary teams and has a strong commitment to clinical research and student education. In particular, the Speech Pathology and Audiology Department has established key research partnerships with the UQ Centre for Clinical Research and School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences resulting in ongoing collaborative research projects and publications.

Key research areas include:

- Head and Neck Cancer – intervention, models of care and outcomes of patients following surgery and/or chemotherapy/radiotherapy
- Stroke- assessment of aphasia, intensity of aphasia rehabilitation
- Dysphagia – dysphagia screening, instrumental assessment, swallowing rehabilitation
- Telehealth and telerehabilitation
- Tracheostomy – simulated training
- Cochlear implant



In 2015 the research achievements in Speech Pathology and Audiology continued to thrive. This was achieved through extensive existing collaborations and the committed clinicians engaged in research across all of our teams. The overall research outputs for Speech Pathology and Audiology in 2015 were 7 peer reviewed publications in high impact journals, 13 oral conference presentations and 6 poster presentations.

Highlights included numerous awards recognising Clare Burns’ research investigating innovative telehealth models of care in Head and Neck Cancer. In 2015, Clare’s innovative research was disseminated in peer reviewed publications and at international conferences. Furthermore, Clare won the 2015 AHP Research Award at the RBWH Research Symposium as well as being highly commended for innovation at the inaugural MNHHS Excellence Awards.

We are particularly proud of the growth in the research capacity across all our teams and the number of novice researchers publishing in peer reviewed journals and presenting their research findings at international conferences for the first time in 2015. We are committed to the further development of our “clinician researchers of the future” in Speech Pathology and Audiology.

We have a clear vision to undertake research which translates into real benefits for our consumers and we are committed to rigorous evaluation of new innovative models of care (e.g., telehealth models of care in Head and neck Cancer, aphasia rehabilitation models). We look forward to building on the achievements of 2015 in the coming years.

## Supervised Post-graduate Research Students

| Name             | Current Studies University<br><i>(duration)</i> | Research Project Title   | Supervisors<br><i>(RBWH staff in bold)</i>                         |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| Clare Burns      | PhD, UQ (2013–2016)                             | Telehealth and Speech Pathology Management of Head and Neck Cancer   | Liz Ward, Annie Hill   |
| Laura Moroney    | MPhil, UQ (2015–2018)                           | Dysphagia and related toxicities in head and neck patients undergoing Helical Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (H-IMRT) +/- chemotherapy | Liz Ward, <b>Jane Crombie</b>                                      |
| Alexia Rohde     | PhD, UQ (2012–2016)                             | Evidence-based identification of aphasia using a rational clinical examination approach  | Linda Worrall, Robyn O’Halloran, Erin Godecke, <b>Anna Farrell</b> |
| Leisa Turkington | PhD, UQ (2013–2019)                             | Neurogenic dysphagia and sensory enhancement strategies  | Liz Ward, <b>Anna Farrell</b>                                      |



## Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology (cont)

### Current RBWH Led Research Activity

| RBWH Lead Researchers            | Collaborative Researchers<br>(RBWH staff in bold)   | Research Project Title  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Clare Burns                      | Liz Ward, Annie Hill, Lynell Bassett, <b>Liz Kenny</b> , Karen Malcolm, Franco del Rosso, Phil Greenup                      | Randomised Controlled Trial to evaluate a Speech Pathology telehealth service to support Head and Neck Cancer patients  |
| Clare Burns                      | Liz Ward, Anne Hill, Ben Keir   | Conducting instrumental assessments of adult dysphagia via telehealth   |
| Clare Burns                      | Liz Ward, Annie Hill, Robyn Saxon, Brooke Cowie, Amy Gray   | Development, implementation and evaluation of a Queensland Health telepractice model for the clinical assessment of adult dysphagia                                   |
| Clare Burns and Shana Taubert    | Liz Ward, Kelly McCarthy  | Evaluating an e-Learning program for training in Adult MBS assessment   |
| Alexia Rohde                     | Linda Worrall, Erin Godecke, Robyn O'Halloran, <b>Anna Farrell, Penni Burfein, Andrew Wong, Genevieve Skinner</b>           | Evidence-based identification of aphasia using a rational clinical examination approach   |
| Dr Anna Farrell                  | Anna Rumbach, Stacey Verner-Wren, Rebecca Nund, Nerina Scarinci, <b>Nicole Hutchinson, Robert Henderson, Pamela McCombe</b> | Patient and family carer experiences of dysphagia in Motor Neurone Disease: Determining speech pathology service needs for those living in rural and remote locations |
| Leisa Turkington                 | Liz Ward, <b>Anna Farrell</b>   | Neurogenic dysphagia and sensory enhancement strategies   |
| Laura Moroney                    | <b>Jane Crombie, Jennifer Helios, Clare Burns, Ann-Louise Spurgin, Liz Kenny, Brett Hughes, Clare Blake</b>                 | Dysphagia and related toxicities in head and neck patients undergoing Helical Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (H-IMRT) +/- chemotherapy                              |
| Belinda Lehn, Sarah Wilson       | <b>Clare Burns, Ann-Louise Spurgin, Robert Hodge, Martin Batstone</b>   | Evaluation of speech and swallowing outcomes following total laryngectomy and pharyngolaryngectomy  |
| Jane Crombie, Ann-Louise Spurgin | <b>Clare Burns, Liz Ward, Stephanie Ng, Teresa Brown, Liz Kenny, Brett Hughes, Lee Tripcony, Jaqueline Wells</b>            | RBWH Swallowing and Nutrition Guidelines for Head and Neck Cancer patients  |
| Rebecca Cremer                   | Anna Rumbach  | Dysphagia outcomes following caustic ingestion  |

### Other Current Collaborative Research Activity

| Collaborative Lead Researchers   | RBWH Researchers  | Research Project Title  |
|--|---|---|
| Georgia Thomas (UQ)<br>David Copland (UQ)  | <b>Nadia Borgna, Sarah Heaton, Anna Farrell, Lindy Jefree</b> | The use of functional magnetic resonance imaging and MRI diffusion tractography for pre-surgical mapping and investigation of neuroplasticity in adults with a brain tumour |
| Linda Worrall (UQ), David Copland (UQ), Melissa Lawrie (Gold Coast HHS), Liz Ward (UQ), Moya Pattie (Wesley) | <b>Penni Burfein, Anna Farrell</b>                            | Can a new, intensive model of aphasia rehabilitation achieve better outcomes than usual care?   |

### Research Awards and Achievements

| Recipient    | Award  | Event   |
|--------------|--|---|
| Clare Burns  | The Allied Health Professionals Research Award | RBWH Research Symposium October 2015                      |
| Clare Burns  | Highly Commended Award for Innovation          | MNHHS Excellence Awards Ceremony November 2015            |
| Clare Burns  | RBWH Post graduate Research Scholarship        | RBWH Foundation Research Awards 2015                      |
| Clare Burns  | PhD top up grant -AusHSI                       | Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation (AusHSI) |
| Alexia Rohde | RBWH Post graduate Research Scholarship        | RBWH Foundation Research Awards 2015                      |