

NATIONAL CENTRE IN
HIV EPIDEMIOLOGY AND
CLINICAL RESEARCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

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What is NCHECR?

The National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) was established in 1986 by the Australian Government to fulfil a number of key roles in Australia's fight against HIV/AIDS.

Located on the campus of St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, the Centre is directly affiliated with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of New South Wales, and receives its core funding through the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

NCHECR's primary functions relate to the coordination of national surveillance programs and clinical trials. While its original focus was exclusively on HIV/AIDS, NCHECR's work has expanded to encompass hepatitis B and C, and sexually transmissible infections. NCHECR also conducts research into the transmission, prevention and natural history of these infections. NCHECR's research program has increasingly taken on a regional focus, with major collaborative programs in Thailand and Cambodia. Other functions of NCHECR include the training of health professionals, and input into the development and implementation of health policy and programs.



Program Management Committee

Back row: Andrew Grulich, Anthony Kelleher, Sean Emery, Matthew Law, Greg Dore

Front row: John Kaldor, David Cooper, Bronwen Turner, Annie Tung

NCHECR carries out its functions by working with an extensive range of collaborators, including State and Territory Health Departments, public and private clinical units, national and international organisations, and the corporate sector. It also works closely with the other national HIV research centres.

Dissemination of NCHECR's research output is undertaken through publication in scientific journals and a range of surveillance reports.

The Director is supported in the overall management of the Centre by the Executive Committee. As well as the Director, Executive members are the Deputy Director, the Manager of Finance and Administration and the Head of the Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program.

The Centre conducts its research through seven scientific Programs:

- Surveillance
- Therapeutic and Vaccine Research
- HIV Epidemiology and Prevention
- Viral Hepatitis
- Primary HIV Infection Research
- Biostatistics and Databases
- Laboratory Support

The Program Heads, along with the Director, the Deputy Director, the Manager of Finance and Administration and the Business Manager, form the Program Management Committee, which is responsible for overseeing the scientific activities of the Centre.



Foreword

NCHECR is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, through a grant to the University of New South Wales, where it is affiliated with the Faculty of Medicine. Its primary role is to coordinate national surveillance and carry out clinical and epidemiological research related to HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections.

Calendar year 2004 saw the initiation of several new projects, which represented major new directions for NCHECR's collaborative programs. After over a year of preparation, with extensive technical support from NCHECR, the Cambodian Government's Social Health Clinic in Phnom Penh opened its doors to offer care and treatment to people with HIV infection, and to operate as a site for training and research. In the area of viral hepatitis, patient enrolment began in two large-scale Australian studies of treatment for hepatitis C infection, and an international study of hepatitis B and HIV co-infection.



David Cooper, John Kaldor

2004 also saw the conclusion of some important investigations. The first trial of an Australian-developed vaccine against HIV infection produced disappointing results in HIV-negative volunteers, with little or no evidence of the required immunological responses. This research program has nevertheless been of great benefit in enhancing Australia's ability to conduct full-scale development programs in this challenging area of research. Further clinical evaluation of similar vaccines is planned to commence in Thailand during 2005. In contrast, a small-scale study of a closely related vaccine in people with established HIV infection that was presented at an international meeting in early 2004 provided evidence of therapeutic benefit, with lower viral loads being demonstrated in some of those who had received the vaccine.



Buddhist monks conducting the blessing at the opening of the Social Health Clinic in Phnom Penh.

There was considerable activity during 2004 in concluding the long-term follow up of trials that had previously completed their designated treatment phases. Meanwhile, other long-term collaborative trials of HIV treatment strategy (ESPRIT, SMART and PHIDISA) continued their periods of observation with coordination by NCHECR in ten countries on four continents. Preparative work commenced to establish a truly global network of centrally coordinated research centres for the conduct of randomised clinical trials (subsequently called the Insight Network). Recruitment and follow up continued in the HIM cohort, now one of the world's largest ongoing studies of gay men, and the study began to produce its first findings on the incidence of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections.

A wide range of other research, teaching and service activities is presented in the remainder of this report.

NCHECR's research program relies on the excellent collaborations that it has built up in Australia and internationally. We have also been fortunate in continuing to be able to recruit and retain outstanding staff at all levels, who have ensured high levels of productivity for the organisation. Finally, and crucially, we acknowledge with gratitude the role of the participants in our clinical and epidemiological investigations, without whom our mission would be impossible to achieve.

David Cooper, Director

John Kaldor, Deputy Director



Research activities

The following sections describe NCHECR achievements and activities within Programs during 2004. Each project report lists any sources of funding beyond the NCHECR core grant that were used to fund the activity, as well as NCHECR personnel and external collaborators involved with the project. Three senior NCHECR personnel are not named in the project reports because they have a wide range of supervisory roles, as follows:

The Director, David Cooper directly supervises the Heads of the Programs in Therapeutic and Vaccine Research and Laboratory Support. He takes specific responsibility as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator in the following projects: ESPRIT, SILCAAT, INITIO, the Vaccine Design and Development Project, AIEDRP, SMART and STACCATO. He is also an active Co-Director of HIV-NAT, the clinical research collaboration in Bangkok, Thailand, and a member of the Steering Committee of the Cambodian Treatment Access Program.

Sean Emery is Head of the Program in Therapeutic and Vaccine Research. In this capacity he has a particular supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, and takes specific responsibility as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator in the following projects: ESPRIT, SILCAAT, the Vaccine Design and Development Project, SMART, PHIDISA and Pacific, and provides project related support to HIV-NAT.



Executive Committee

Back row: John Kaldor, Sean Emery

Front row: Bronwen Turner, David Cooper

The Deputy Director, John Kaldor, supports the Director, and directly supervises the Surveillance Program, and the Heads of the Programs in HIV Epidemiology and Prevention, Viral Hepatitis, Primary HIV Research and Biostatistics and Databases. He takes specific responsibility as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator in the following projects: AIEDRP, the HIV prevention trial in Cambodia, the Cambodian research program to support the optimal use of antiretroviral therapy, the project on natural history and treatment for newly acquired hepatitis C, as well as NCHECR's contribution to the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project Phase II in Indonesia and to the evaluation of the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre in Sydney. He is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Cambodian Treatment Access Program.

Surveillance Program

In March 2004, the NCHECR Surveillance Program became a collaborating unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). As an AIHW collaborating unit, confidential data on cases of diagnosed HIV infection and AIDS, forwarded by State and Territory health authorities to the Surveillance Program under national HIV/AIDS surveillance procedures, are granted legal status and are protected from subpoena by the AIHW Act 1987.



John Kaldor

The Surveillance Program continued to monitor the pattern of transmission of HIV, hepatitis B and C, and specific sexually transmissible infections in Australia in 2004, in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, State and Territory health

authorities and collaborating networks. Detailed analyses and interpretation of recent trends in new diagnoses of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections, and estimates of HIV and hepatitis C prevalence and incidence in higher and lower risk population subgroups, were published in *HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia Annual Surveillance Report 2004*. The *Annual Surveillance Report 2004* was the eighth successive issue of the *Annual Surveillance Report* and was formally released by The Honourable Dr Michael Wooldridge, Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis, at the 16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine in Canberra in September 2004.

The *Annual Surveillance Report 2004* indicated that the number of AIDS cases remained relatively stable at around 240 cases each year in 2000-2003.

Following a steady decline until 1998, the annual number of new diagnoses of HIV infection increased to 782 by 2003. The number of diagnoses of newly acquired HIV infection also increased from 151 in 1998 to 277 in 2003, the highest number of reported diagnoses since commencement of surveillance for newly acquired HIV infection in 1991. HIV transmission occurred primarily through sexual contact between men. There was no evidence of an increase in HIV transmission through injecting drug use or heterosexual contact. One case of mother-to-child HIV transmission was diagnosed in 2002-2003. A paper modelling the cost effectiveness of a universal antenatal HIV screening program in Australia was published in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases* in 2004.

An estimated 13,630 people were living with HIV/AIDS in Australia at the end of 2003 and around 50% were receiving antiretroviral treatment for HIV infection. Survival following AIDS had increased from 16.8 months among cases diagnosed by the end of 1994, to 32 months among cases diagnosed in 2000.

The number of new diagnoses of hepatitis C infection reported through the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System declined from 19,487 in 2000 to 14,499 in 2003. Hepatitis C transmission continued to occur predominantly among people with a recent history of injecting drug use. Results available through the Collaboration of Australian Needle and Syringe Programs showed that hepatitis C prevalence among men and women who had been injecting drugs for less than three years was 21% in 2003. Hepatitis C prevalence remained high among people aged less than 20 years, at 32% in 2003. A paper describing the methods and results of surveillance for newly acquired hepatitis C infection in Australia was published in the *Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology* in 2004.

An estimated 181,000 people were living with hepatitis C infection in Australia in 2003, including 143,000 people with chronic hepatitis C infection and stage 0/1 liver disease, 31,000 with stage 2/3 liver disease and 7,500 living with hepatitis C related cirrhosis. In 2003, an estimated 1,285 people were treated with ribavirin and interferon combination treatment for hepatitis C infection. The Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Register reported hepatitis B and hepatitis C was the primary cause of liver disease in 10.4% and 27.1% of liver transplants in 2003, respectively.

Chlamydia was the most frequently reported notifiable communicable infection in Australia in 2003. The number of new diagnoses increased from 14,082 in 1999 to 30,193 in 2003. The population rate of diagnosis of gonorrhoea also increased from 30.0 in 1999 to 34.6 per 100,000 population in 2003, whereas the rate of diagnosis of syphilis declined from 9.6 in 1999 to 8.9 per 100,000 population in 2003. However, diagnoses of newly acquired syphilis increased in New South Wales and Victoria, from 1.4 and 0.4 per 100,000 population respectively in 2001, to 6.4 and 2.0 per 100,000 population respectively in 2003.

The *Australian HIV Surveillance Report* continued to be published in 2004, providing quarterly updates on the number of new diagnoses of HIV/AIDS and HIV prevalence and incidence among people seen through a network of metropolitan sexual health clinics. Brief reports on topics of special interest in HIV/AIDS epidemiology were also published in the *Australian HIV Surveillance Report*. Trends in newly diagnosed and newly acquired HIV infection in New South Wales from January 1999 to September 2003 were reported in the January 2004 issue. The April 2004 issue included a report on improved completeness of namecode among cases of newly

diagnosed HIV infection notified to the National HIV Database, following incorporation of newly available information on cases diagnosed in Victoria prior to September 1996. Selected epidemiological and social research findings presented at the XV International AIDS Conference, held in Bangkok, Thailand, were reported in the July 2004 issue. The characteristics of people with diagnosed HIV infection who were seen in 2003 at the Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic in Queensland, were reported in the October 2004 issue.

An article describing the role of the Surveillance Program in national surveillance activities for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections was published in *Communicable Diseases Intelligence* in 2004.

National surveillance coordination and information dissemination

Support for national surveillance committees

The National HIV Surveillance Committee, the National Viral Hepatitis Surveillance Committee and the Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee each co-ordinate ongoing national surveillance activities within their terms of reference including the development of new initiatives in case surveillance, new analyses of surveillance data, development of standardised surveillance procedures, and communication with and feedback of surveillance outputs to organisations directly involved in surveillance activities.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Claire Vajdic

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia Annual Surveillance Report

Detailed analyses and interpretations of national surveillance data on HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections are published in *HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia Annual Surveillance Report*

Status: The Annual Surveillance Report 2004 was published for the eighth successive year.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Handan Wand

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Australian HIV Surveillance Report

The *Australian HIV Surveillance Report* provides quarterly updates on the number of new diagnoses of HIV infection and AIDS and estimates of HIV incidence and prevalence through a network of sexual health clinics. Articles on topics of special interest in HIV epidemiology are also published in the *Australian HIV Surveillance Report*.

Status: Ongoing. The Australian HIV Surveillance Report, in its current format, has been published each quarter from July 1990.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Handan Wand

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Surveillance for HIV/AIDS

Monitoring cases of AIDS

The past pattern of HIV transmission, the pattern of illness associated with advanced HIV immunodeficiency and the impact of antiretroviral treatment on the pattern of illness is monitored through national AIDS surveillance.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Handan Wand

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Monitoring cases of newly diagnosed HIV infection

The pattern of HIV transmission is monitored through national surveillance for newly diagnosed HIV infection, potentially providing information on more recent patterns of HIV transmission than does AIDS surveillance.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Handan Wand

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Monitoring diagnoses of newly acquired HIV infection

Diagnoses of newly acquired HIV infection are monitored to provide an indication of the current pattern of HIV transmission in Australia.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Monitoring perinatal exposure to HIV

The extent and outcome of perinatal exposure to HIV in Australia, including risk factors for perinatal HIV transmission, is monitored to indicate the rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission, the impact of interventions for reducing the risk of perinatal HIV transmission and HIV prevalence among childbearing women.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Monitoring long-term outcome of newly acquired HIV infection

The long-term outcome of HIV infection is monitored among cases with a known date of HIV acquisition that have progressed to AIDS.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Handan Wand

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Monitoring HIV transmission through specialised tests for incident HIV infection

Specialised tests for diagnosing incident HIV infection are evaluated by comparison with the results of national surveillance for newly acquired HIV infection.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV; State and Territory health authorities; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Monitoring HIV subtypes among new HIV diagnoses

HIV subtype is ascertained among cases of newly acquired HIV infection and cases whose exposure to HIV was attributed to sources other than male homosexual contact.

Status: Ethics Committee clearance for national monitoring of HIV subtype has been obtained through The University of New South Wales.

Personnel: Mary Poynten, Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; networks involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections

Funding: National Centre for HIV Virology Research

Monitoring survival following HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Australia

The date and cause of death among people with diagnosed HIV infection and AIDS is obtained through linkage to deaths registered with the National Death Index, and the pattern of survival following HIV/AIDS diagnosis analysed and modelled.

Status: A file of HIV/AIDS diagnoses, cumulative to 31 December 2003, has been forwarded to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for linkage deaths registered with the National Death Index.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Matthew Law, Fatemeh Nakhaee (PhD student)

Collaborators: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; State and Territory health authorities

Assessment of self-report of HIV exposure history

Documentation of self-report of exposure to HIV is obtained through structured sexual history taking among cases of newly diagnosed HIV infection whose exposure was attributed to sources other than male homosexual contact.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit

Surveillance for viral hepatitis

Monitoring cases of newly diagnosed viral hepatitis

Notifications of newly acquired viral hepatitis and newly diagnosed cases of hepatitis C to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) are tabulated. Additional information on newly acquired hepatitis B and C notifications, including risk factors for acquisition, is obtained from State and Territory health authorities.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Swati Shourie, Lisa Maher, Greg Dore

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Monitoring perinatally acquired hepatitis C infection and outcome in children

Clinicians on the Australian Paediatric Surveillance (APSU) mailing list are asked to notify newly diagnosed hepatitis C positive children as per case definition and complete a written de-identified questionnaire. The questionnaire asks clinicians to report hepatitis C risk factors, maternal hepatitis C risk factors, clinical assessment and management of positive cases. A follow up questionnaire is completed annually.

Status: Ongoing, with an annual surveillance report is included in the APSU report to the National Centre for Disease Control, Australian Department of Health and Ageing Financial Markets Foundation.

Personnel: Suzanne Polis

Collaborators: Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; The Children's Hospital, Westmead; Royal Children's Hospital; Princess Margaret Hospital

Monitoring long-term outcomes of chronic hepatitis B and C

Data is obtained from the Australian and New Zealand Liver Transplant Register on number and underlying cause (hepatitis B and C, other) for liver transplants performed.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Greg Dore, Melanie Middleton

Collaborators: Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Register

Surveillance for sexually transmissible infections

A national framework for sexually transmissible infection (STI) control is being developed through the Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee.

Status: In 2004, the Committee further refined the case definitions for infectious syphilis and syphilis of unknown duration, finalised its review of the prevalence of chlamydia in Australia, commenced a review of the prevalence of gonorrhoea in Australia, surveyed jurisdictions about their current and future capacity to collect enhanced fields for STI notifications, agreed to definitions/classifications for site of infection, sexual exposure and sex worker status, and looked into methods of performing sentinel surveillance of chlamydial infection in Australia.

Personnel: Claire Vajdic, Melanie Middleton

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing; networks involved in surveillance for sexually transmissible infections

Surveillance in selected populations

Needle and syringe program surveys

Annual surveys are conducted over a one-week period at around 50 needle and syringe program (NSP) sites across Australia. Approximately 2,500 clients attending NSP sites complete a behavioural survey and have finger-prick blood samples taken for HIV and hepatitis C testing. This survey is the major tool for monitoring HIV and hepatitis C prevalence among injecting drug users in Australia.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Lisa Maher, Swati Shourie, Bethany White, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Collaboration of Australian Needle and Syringe Programs; National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health

Saliva testing for hepatitis C

This study is designed to validate a method of testing saliva using venous blood, dried blood spots and saliva samples collected from injecting drug users as alternative specimens to capillary blood for hepatitis C antibody testing. Survey data exploring the acceptability of different testing methods will also be collected.

Status: Development and piloting of the study questionnaire took place in 2004. Enrolment to commence in 2005.

Personnel: Rosie Thein, Anna Doab, Carolyn Day, Lisa Maher, Bethany White, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Rankin Court, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Kirketon Road Centre; Nepean Hospital

Funding: NSW Health Department



Back row: Melanie Middleton, Greg Dore, John Kaldor, Andrew Grulich

Front row: Handan Wand, Ann McDonald

Monitoring hepatitis C incidence among injecting drug users

Incidence of hepatitis C is monitored among injecting drug users attending the Kirketon Road Centre. All injecting drug users who are hepatitis C antibody seronegative and have had repeat testing are included in the analysis.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Lisa Maher, Virginia Macdonald, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Kirketon Road Centre

Monitoring HIV prevalence and incidence through sexual health clinics

HIV prevalence and incidence is monitored among people seen at sexual health clinics who are voluntarily tested for HIV antibody as part of their clinical care.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: Collaborative group on sentinel surveillance in sexual health clinics

Monitoring HIV antibody prevalence among prison entrants in Australia

State and Territory Departments of Corrections provide summaries of the number of men and women received into prison each quarter, the number who were voluntarily tested for HIV antibody and the number with diagnosed HIV infection.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Ann McDonald

Collaborators: State and Territory Departments of Corrections

Monitoring hepatitis C antibody prevalence through sexual health clinics

Hepatitis C prevalence is monitored among people seen through a network of sexual health clinics who are voluntarily tested for hepatitis C.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: Collaborative group on sentinel surveillance in sexual health clinics

Monitoring HIV and viral hepatitis among blood donors

Newly emerging patterns of transmission of HIV and viral hepatitis are monitored among blood donors, a subgroup of the population at low risk of infection who are compulsorily tested for blood borne viruses.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHECR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Ann McDonald, Greg Dore

Collaborator: Australian Red Cross Blood Service

Behavioural surveillance for HIV risk factors among homosexual men

Repeated community-based cross sectional surveys of the risk behaviour of homosexual men.

Status: In 2004, surveys were conducted in Sydney (1,908 completed questionnaires in February; 913 completed questionnaires in August), Melbourne (1,962 completed questionnaires in February), Queensland (1,667 completed questionnaires in June), and Perth (about 1,000 completed questionnaires in November).

Personnel: Garrett Prestage; Andrew Grulich

Collaborators: National Centre in HIV Social Research; State AIDS Councils; State PLWHA organisations

Funding: NSW Health Department; Department of Human Services, Melbourne; Queensland Health; Western Australian Department of Health

Behavioural surveillance for HIV risk factors among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homosexual men

Community-based cross sectional survey of the risk behaviour of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homosexual men.

Status: In 2004, survey was conducted in Queensland (165 completed questionnaires). Homosexually active men of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) background were recruited through gay community venues and events, and at ATSI community health centres.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage; Andrew Grulich; Chris Lawrence (MAE student)

Collaborators: Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health; Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Forum; Queensland AIDS Council; National Centre in HIV Social Research; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; Queensland Health

Funding: Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Behavioural surveillance for sexual health risk factors among homosexual and bisexual women

Repeated community-based cross sectional surveys of the risk behaviour of homosexual women.

Status: In 2004 a survey was conducted in Sydney (543 completed questionnaires). Homosexually active women in contact with the lesbian and gay community were recruited through lesbian and gay community venues and events.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage

Collaborators: AIDS Council of New South Wales; National Centre in HIV Social Research

Funding: AIDS Council of New South Wales

Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program



Sean Emery

A number of projects attained important milestones during 2004. Although still under follow-up, a scheduled interim analysis of safety and immunogenicity data from volunteers in the phase I study of a candidate prophylactic HIV vaccine was undertaken. The results

presented at the 16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine in Canberra were unequivocal. The vaccines were safe and well tolerated but, in the regimen employed, lacked sufficient immunogenic properties for both T and B-cell responses to warrant further investigation. These data were of course enormously disappointing. However, they were generated at a time when other groups around the world had reached virtually identical conclusions with similar vaccine strategies in the setting of human clinical trials. Since becoming available, these data have prompted a systematic approach to understand the poor performance of these vaccines in humans relative to their activity in non-human primate models. Before discounting the approach entirely, it is important to determine whether the vaccine regimen might be modified in some way in an attempt to improve the biological activity of these fascinating constructs. Importantly, the results have prompted a greater understanding of research and development rigour. In this context there is a roughly fifty percent chance the hypothesis under examination will fail. Given the public health urgency for a safe and effective vaccine, being able to discount approaches that do not work is enormously important despite the emotional attachment that is an inevitable consequence of working on a project for many years. In practical terms the vaccine trial itself was a sophisticated and complicated undertaking. Its effective and efficient conduct and the clarity of the subsequent data are a great credit to all involved.

The SMART, ESPRIT and SILCAAT studies continued to recruit and/or follow patients. These large multinational research projects address critical questions relating to the primary treatment of HIV infection. NCHCR plays a significant role in the leadership and coordination of these trials both nationally and internationally. Of equal importance Australian investigators also contribute significantly to the scientific agenda within these studies through

representation on international steering committees and in the development and implementation of a variety of substudies (for example, the neurology and lipodystrophy substudies in SMART).

INITIO, PIILR, MITOX and ROSEY all concluded any form of patient follow-up after lengthy study periods. Extended follow-up protocols for both PIILR and MITOX revealed important additional information relating to the initial hypotheses that were examined in those studies. Principally, it is now clear that sustained and demonstrable improvements in measures of lipodystrophy arise from switching components of combination antiretroviral therapy away from thymidine analogue nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors. Analysis of the extended follow-up of the ROSEY study confirmed that longer exposure to the PPAR- γ agonist rosiglitazone did not result in the amelioration of lipodystrophy.

Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program (TVRP) personnel continued to contribute to the PHIDISA program in South Africa through collaboration between the US National Institutes of Health, the US Department of Defense and the South African National Defence Force. Applying the disciplines of GCRP (Australian Good Clinical Research Practice guidelines) to the establishment of infrastructure within an existing health service is an extremely challenging but nonetheless rewarding endeavour. Developing new personal and professional relationships continued to inspire, while the belief that the work has an immediate and measurable effect on the lives of many satisfied a key motivation for contribution.

A detailed analysis of trough drug levels measured in a subpopulation of CREST participants indicated that response to antiretroviral therapy in patients failing therapy may be predicted with some precision on the basis of combining resistance test information with drug level data. This was particularly evident when applied to patients who were commencing ritonavir boosted HIV protease regimens. Further exploratory work was planned on the basis of the initial observations.

One meeting of the Combined NCHCR Working Groups occurred during 2004. At the meeting presentations were given on new initiatives with the Immuno-Virology Research Network (IVRN), and on how NCHCR attempts to address issues relating to authorship within a transparent and equitable framework governed by mandatory compliance statements through UNSW and an increasing number of academic journals. The Combined Working Groups remains a critical component of dialogue in formulating research topics and policy at NCHCR, in addition to providing a forum for dissemination of research results among a diverse constituency of stakeholder groups.

Once again, during 2004, NCHCCR was confronted with one painful reality of collaborative research. The Pacific trial had evolved substantially during the first half of 2004. Staff at NCHCCR had worked exhaustively to develop an international network committed to the study, the project team had prepared comprehensive training and education materials, operational aspects for this study had been very carefully considered including the construction of a web-enabled Case Report Form (CRF) for data management and we were on the cusp of opening for recruitment. In mid September Bristol-Myers Squibb, as the principal provider of financial support, informed NCHCCR that it was withdrawing support from the trial for commercial reasons as part of a restructuring process for how it intended to support licensed pharmaceutical products. This devastating news was handled with enormous maturity and professionalism by the affected NCHCCR staff as well as our colleagues in the international network of investigators. Sadly, it appears unlikely the principal question addressed in Pacific will ever be answered, and as such, clinicians and patients will effectively have to guess when making decisions about using atazanavir in clinical practice.

For many years one of the principal funding agencies on a global scale in biomedical disciplines has been the US government through the National Institutes of Health, and primarily the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Significant and meaningful contributions that have an enormous impact upon the lives of many affected by HIV have arisen through research in the AIDS Clinical Trials Group, the Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS (CPCRA) and countless numbers of investigator-initiated research through other funding mechanisms. NCHCCR enjoys support through NIAID for conduct of the ESPRIT and SMART studies, as well as smaller projects examining atherosclerosis and other metabolic abnormalities. During 2004, the ESPRIT group were asked to consider themselves as a recognised network and as such consider applying for further support under a substantial revision to the mechanisms through which existing programs are supported. This prompted a great deal of discussion and consultation through much of 2004 that included national and site investigators who attended ESPRIT and SMART International Steering Committee meetings and dedicated network discussions with invited representatives from participant countries and community organisations. Very early on in these discussions it became clear there were marked similarities in philosophy and mission between the ESPRIT and CPCRA networks (an observation reinforced by the existing SMART collaboration). As a consequence a decision was taken at an early stage to prepare a joint submission from the two organisations under a new banner. This proposal to merge has of necessity consumed a good deal of time in preparation and planning. With the formal submission still in preparation, it is not possible to provide a concise summary that might not ever change.

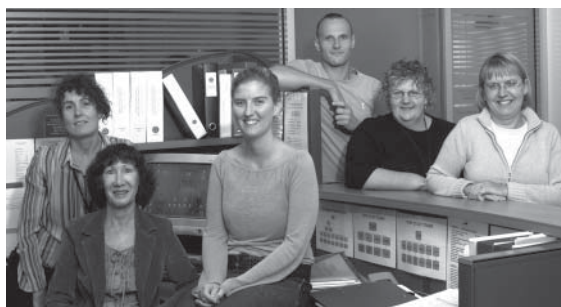
We believe the opportunity represents a unique chance to contribute in significant ways to both a new research agenda and new ways of going about the implementation of research within an international research network. Clearly further consultation is going to be required in order to shape plans in ways that make sense from a local perspective and there is now a window of opportunity in which to undertake that dialogue. Importantly, conduct of research through any new network would allow greater stability within the NCHCCR network.

Having invested such a large amount of energy into Pacific, it made good sense to ascertain if there was means by which elements of the protocol, and importantly the network of sites, could be preserved. Part of the Pacific study implementation had been to introduce web-enabled CRFs for data management and, in the absence of a defined protocol, this remained a key operational objective for personnel at NCHCCR.

Through NSW government initiatives, it has become clear there are a number of similarly structured clinical research organisations in the Sydney metropolitan area alone that deal with the challenges and frustrations of collaborative research on a day to day basis in much the same ways as the TVRP. We commenced dialogue with the leadership of these groups to determine if there are ways through which we might share on both a formal and informal basis, operational and cultural experiences. While the discussions are preliminary these sorts of linkages might also give rise to more organic relationships with defined research projects across different therapeutic areas.

At the end of the year we said farewell to Gillian Hales who has embarked on a new career in the private sector. Her new role will inevitably mean close and continued links with NCHCCR. Gillian started at UNSW as a nurse coordinator in the Community HIV Research Network (CHRN). She subsequently moved to the forerunner group of the current TVRP, whereupon she completed her thesis and was awarded her PhD through UNSW. Gillian played a central role in several studies conducted through CHRN and the TVRP. Gillian was also able to apply her substantial experience to many material issues relating to the conduct of research through a collaborative network. These less well known and largely unrewarded contributions included coordination of the Standard Operating Procedures and their subsequent use, including audits and amendment, and organising annual Trial Network Site Coordinators Meetings. Gillian moved to an academic appointment commensurate with her qualifications, and quickly worked across a number of projects in which she was the primary responsible staff member (for example CREST), as well as making insightful and valued contributions to virtually all other projects. We wish Gillian every success in her new career and sincerely hope it proves all she hopes it to be.

On a sadder note we also said farewell to Stephen Delaney who passed away. Stephen's most recent contributions to NCHCR had been in the form of valued membership of the Primary HIV Infection Working Group, and in support of the community sector's interest in the prophylactic vaccine consortium. Prior to this Stephen had enjoyed a professional life as an academic scientist in his own right at the Centre for Immunology at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. We were saddened to hear that Stephen had died and our thoughts are with Paul and the affected family and friends.



Alison Macdonald, Jennifer Tapp, Kirsten Bailey, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Robyn Munro, Wendy Lee

Antiretroviral therapy

Studies closed to recruitment or completed during 2004

INITIO

A randomised trial to evaluate different therapeutic strategies of combination therapy for HIV infection.

Status: Recruitment closed April 2002. Follow-up completed June 2004.

Sites: 28 (25 Australia, 2 New Zealand, 1 Brazil)

Enrolled/target: 171(140 Australia and New Zealand, 31 Brazil)/100

Personnel: Dianne Carey, Susan Phipps, Wendy Lee

Funding: Medical Research Council, UK

ML16992

An open-label study to determine the efficacy and safety of enfuvirtide (T20, Fuzeon) in patients changing therapy to an NRTI-sparing regimen.

Status: Recruitment closed April 2003. Follow-up to be completed March 2005.

Sites: 19

Enrolled/target: 59/60

Personnel: Gillian Hales, Robyn Munro

Funding: Roche Products Pty Ltd

STACCATO

The Swiss-Thai-Australia Treatment Interruption Study. This study compares continuous therapy with intermittent therapy based on CD4 cell count.

Status: Recruitment closed February 2004. Follow-up to be completed July 2005.

Sites: 17 (2 Australia, 7 Thailand, 8 Switzerland)

Enrolled/target: 8/30 Australia, 530/600 internationally

Personnel: Fraser Drummond, Claudette Satchell

Studies recruiting during 2004

ASK-500

A 48-week, randomised, study to describe the pharmacokinetic profile and durability of atazanavir-saquinavir-ritonavir once daily, and describe the pharmacokinetic profile of saquinavir-ritonavir using saquinavir 500mg formulation.

Status: Recruitment opened September 2004

Sites: 1 Australia

Enrolled/target: 13/40

Personnel: Alan Winston, Claudette Satchell, Robyn Munro

Funding: F. Hoffman La Roche Ltd

SMART

A large, simple, trial comparing two strategies for management of antiretroviral therapy: this study is examining the impact of long-term HIV control by randomising patients to receive antiretrovirals to either maintain an undetectable viral load or maintain an acceptable CD4 count.

Status: Recruitment opened May 2002

Sites: 22 Australia, 3 New Zealand, 1 Japan, 13 Argentina (2 open)

Enrolled/target: 150/200 Australia, 2,653/6,000 internationally

Personnel: Fraser Drummond, Sue Phipps, Claudette Satchell

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

PHIDISA I

A prospective epidemiological cohort study of HIV and risk-related co-infections in the South African National Defence Force (SANDF).

Status: Recruitment opened January 2004

Sites: 6 military medical sites in Republic of South Africa

Enrolled/target: 2,000/unlimited

Personnel: Allison Martin

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; US Department of Defense; South African National Defence Force

PHIDISA II

A randomised, open-label 2x2 factorial study to compare the safety and efficacy of different combination antiretroviral therapy regimens in treatment naïve patients with advanced HIV disease and/or CD4+ cell counts < 200 cells/μL.

Status: Recruitment opened January 2004

Sites: 6 military medical sites in Republic of South Africa

Enrolled/target: 729/2,800

Personnel: Allison Martin

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; US Department of Defense; South African National Defence Force

Studies in preparation 2004

Pacific

A comparison of once-daily antiretroviral therapy (ART) in HIV infected treatment-naïve subjects.

Status: In development

Sites: To be decided

Target: To be finalised

Personnel: Allison Martin, Susan Phipps, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Paddy Mallon, Alan Winston

Funding: Undetermined



Cate Carey, David Courtney-Rodgers, Simone Jacoby

PHIDISA III

A randomised, controlled study to compare immediate versus deferred treatment with antiretrovirals alone or in combination with nutritional supplementation in patients with HIV infection and CD4+ cell counts ≥ 250 and <350 cells/μL and no category III or IV symptoms of disease (WHO criteria).

Status: In development

Sites: 6 military medical sites in Republic of South Africa

Target: 4,800

Personnel: Allison Martin

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; US Department of Defense; South African National Defence Force

Lipodystrophy studies

Studies closed to recruitment or completed during 2004

MITOX extension

A long-term comparative study of immediate versus deferred replacement of thymidine analogue with guanosine analogue in patients with lipoatrophy.

Status: Recruitment closed February 2003. Follow-up completed March 2004.

Sites: 16

Enrolled/target: 82/105

Personnel: Allison Martin, Robyn Munro

Funding: GlaxoSmithKline

ROSEY

A randomised, double blind, placebo-controlled, multi-centre study of rosiglitazone for the treatment of HIV lipodystrophy with a 48-week open label extension phase.

Status: Recruitment closed June 2002. Study closed prematurely in Oct 2003. Follow-up completed January 2004.

Sites: 17

Enrolled/target: 108/100

Personnel: Dianne Carey, Allison Martin, Kymme Courtney-Vega

Funding: GlaxoSmithKline; Bristol-Myers Squibb

SAMA 001

Seronegatives, Antiretrovirals and Metabolic Abnormalities Protocol 1

A randomised study of the effect of treatment with zidovudine (AZT) and lamivudine (3TC) versus stavudine (d4T) and lamivudine (3TC) in HIV-negative healthy subjects on the development of abnormalities of lipid and glucose metabolism.

Status: Recruitment closed May 2003. Follow-up completed March 2004.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 20/20

Personnel: Paddy Mallon

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Pravastatin Study

A randomised study of pravastatin for the treatment of HIV protease inhibitor-induced hyperlipidaemia.

Status: Recruitment closed July 2004. Follow-up completed December 2004.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 33/40

Personnel: Paddy Mallon

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; Bristol Myers Squibb

Studies recruiting during 2004

HAMA 001

HIV Infection and Metabolic Abnormalities

A prospective study of the effect of treatment with antiretroviral medications in HIV-infected individuals on the development of lipodystrophy, cardiovascular risk and bone metabolism.

Status: Recruitment opened March 2003

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 26/80

Personnel: Paddy Mallon

Funding: US National Institutes of Health



Paddy Mallon, Dianne Carey, Rebekah Puls, Kate Clezy

SAMA 002

Seronegatives, Antiretrovirals and Metabolic Abnormalities Protocol 2

A three arm, prospective study to compare the effect of six weeks exposure to the combination of Kaletra® (lopinavir/ritonavir) and Combivir® (AZT/3TC) versus Kaletra® alone or Combivir® alone in HIV-negative healthy subjects on the development of abnormalities of lipid and glucose metabolism.

Status: Recruitment opened December 2004

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 3/50

Personnel: Paddy Mallon

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Study in preparation during 2004

Facial Lipotrophy Trial

A randomised, open-label study to assess the safety, efficacy and durability of immediate versus deferred subcutaneous injections of poly lactic acid in individuals with antiretroviral-associated facial lipotrophy.

Status: In development

Sites: To be decided

Target: 100

Personnel: Dianne Carey, Wendy Lee

Funding: Undetermined

Immune-based therapies and vaccines

Studies closed to recruitment or completed during 2004

SILCAAT

A phase III, multicentre, randomised study of the biological and clinical efficacy of subcutaneous recombinant, human interleukin-2 in HIV-infected patients with low CD4+ counts receiving active antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Recruitment closed October 2002. Follow-up to be completed 2010.

Sites: 17 (12 Australia, 5 Argentina)

Enrolled/target: 293 (126 Australia, 167 Argentina)/125 Australia

Personnel: Sarah Pett, Cate Carey, David Courtney-Rodgers, Brooke Cordwell, Simone Jacoby

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

ESPRIT

A randomised, open-label, phase III, international study of subcutaneous recombinant interleukin-2 in patients with HIV infection and CD4 lymphocyte count greater than or equal to 300 cells/mm³.

Status: Recruitment closed May 2003. Follow-up to be completed 2010.

Sites: 48 (23 Australia, 3 Japan, 1 Singapore, 5 Thailand, 13 Argentina, 3 Israel)

Enrolled/target: 1,233 = 106% of enrolment target (205/247 Australia, 64/65 Israel, 365/300 Thailand, 20/20 Singapore, 554/494 Argentina, 25/35 Japan)

Personnel: Sarah Pett, Cate Carey, David Courtney-Rodgers, Brooke Cordwell, Simone Jacoby, Chris Duncombe

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

HVDDT vaccine

A randomised, placebo-controlled, double blind, phase I/IIa clinical trial to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of a candidate clade B prophylactic DNA prime-rFPV boost HIV vaccination strategy.

Status: Recruitment closed February 2004. Follow-up completed February 2005.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 24/24

Personnel: Rebekah Puls, Tony Kelleher, Wendy Lee

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Studies in preparation during 2004

HVDDT vaccine (AE#1)

A randomised, placebo-controlled, double blind, phase I clinical trial to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of a candidate prophylactic pHIS-HIV-AE DNA prime and rFPV-HIV-AE boost HIV vaccination strategy.

Status: In development

Sites: 1

Target: 10

Personnel: Rebekah Puls, Wendy Lee

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; Australia-Thai HIV Vaccine Consortium

Recombinant fowlpox #1

A randomised, double blind placebo controlled trial to assess the safety and efficacy of two doses of recombinant fowlpox vaccine expressing HIV genes and human interferon-gamma in the treatment of HIV infected patients with asymptomatic disease and CD4+ cell counts >500 copies/ μ L.

Status: In development

Sites: To be decided

Target: 180

Personnel: Rebekah Puls

Funding: Undetermined

Recombinant fowlpox #2

A randomised double blind placebo controlled trial to assess the safety and efficacy of two dosing schedules of recombinant fowlpox vaccine expressing HIV genes and human interferon-gamma in the treatment of HIV infected patients with asymptomatic disease and CD4+ cell counts >500 copies/ μ L.

Status: In development

Sites: To be decided

Target: 120

Personnel: Rebekah Puls

Funding: Undetermined

HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program

Work in the HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program continued to focus on two main areas: HIV transmission and its prevention, and the natural history of HIV-related disease, with a major focus on HIV-related cancer.



Andrew Grulich

The vaccine preparedness cohort study, known as the Health in Men (HIM) study, completed enrolment of 1,425 men by end 2004. Men are comprehensively screened for sexually transmissible infections as well as HIV. This will allow for a comprehensive

analysis of the interaction between HIV and sexually transmissible infections in this population. In 2004, the first results were published from the cohort; an analysis of hepatitis A and B infection in the cohort revealed that overall levels of immunity to hepatitis A and B were approximately 70%. However, only half of gay men aged less than 25 were immune, pointing to the need for targeted vaccination strategies for this population. Despite the outbreak of syphilis in homosexual men in Sydney, the incidence of syphilis in the cohort remained relatively low, at 0.8% per year. The seroprevalence of hepatitis C in the cohort was low (0.9%) despite high levels of injecting and sexual risk behaviour. All HCV infected individuals had parenteral risk factors for infection, suggesting that sexual transmission of HCV was rare in this cohort. During 2004, funding was obtained to add testing for Herpes simplex types 1 and 2 to the cohort.

The study of risk factors for HIV seroconversion recruited strongly in 2004. The study found that two-thirds of infections were attributed to sexual contact with casual partners. Most infections attributed to regular partners occurred in the first year of a relationship.

The observational study of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis ceased recruiting in 2004, after enrolling 1601 individuals. The vast majority of prescriptions were appropriate according to national guidelines and no infections related to treatment failure occurred in this population.

The study of pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV infection using tenofovir that was under preparation during the preceding two years was closed following a request from the Cambodian Prime Minister.

During 2004, funds were secured to allow pilot testing for anal intra-epithelial neoplasia and human papilloma virus infection within the HIM and positive health (pH) cohort. In addition, funds were obtained to test pH participants for sexually transmissible infections.

HIV transmission and prevention research

HIV vaccine preparedness cohort study (Health in Men (HIM) Study)

A vaccine preparedness cohort study of HIV-negative homosexual men.

Status: By the end of 2004, 1,425 men had been enrolled, including 94 enrolled in 2004. 1,109 men were interviewed in 2004. In addition to testing for HIV, 98% were tested for hepatitis A and B and syphilis, and 90% were tested for gonorrhoea and chlamydia in the urine, throat and anus.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

Collaborators: National Centre in HIV Social Research; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NSW Health Department; Becton Dickinson



Back row: Hedimo Santana, Patrick McGrath, Brian Acraman
Front row: Jack Bradley, Daniel O'Neill

Interaction between sexually transmissible infections and HIV infection in the HIM study

A cohort study to examine the interaction between sexually transmissible infections and HIV incidence among initially HIV-negative homosexual men.

Status: 1,425 men enrolled by the mid-2004, of whom more than 90% consented to sexual health screening. 1,137 had been tested for gonorrhoea and chlamydia.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

Collaborators: National Centre in HIV Social Research; Basil Donovan, Cathy Pell, Sydney Sexual Health Centre

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NSW Health Department; Becton-Dickinson; Glaxo-SmithKline



Garrett Prestage, Hedimo Santana

Transmission of hepatitis C in the Health in Men (HIM) Study

A cross sectional study of prevalence and risk factors for hepatitis C infection in homosexual men.

Status: Men enrolled in the HIM study in 2001 and 2002 were offered hepatitis C testing, and 824 consented (completed in 2004).

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin, Greg Dore

Collaborator: National Centre in HIV Social Research

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NSW Health Department

Study of daily oral tenofovir to prevent HIV-1 infection

A phase II/III placebo-controlled randomised controlled trial to investigate the safety and efficacy of daily oral tenofovir to prevent HIV-1 infection among sex workers in Cambodia.

Status: Pre-trial development ceased in August 2004.

Personnel: Jenne Roberts, Julian Elliott, Robert Oelrichs, Iona Millwood, Mary Poynten

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; National Institute for Public Health; University of California San Francisco

Funding: Family Health International

Non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis

An observational study of the use of post-exposure prophylaxis in Australia.

Status: 1,601 participants had been enrolled by the end of 2003.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Mary Poynten, Don Smith

Collaborators: NCHECR network

Funding: Glaxo-SmithKline; NSW Health Department

Risk factors for HIV seroconversion

A study of risk factors for HIV infection among people with newly acquired HIV infection.

Status: By the end of 2004, 109 men had been enrolled.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

Collaborators: PHAEDRA investigators (*see Primary HIV Infection Research Program*); National Centre in HIV Social Research

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Risk factors for syphilis in homosexual men

A cross sectional study of risk factors for syphilis among men diagnosed with infectious syphilis in inner Sydney medical practices.

Status: 57 men were recruited in 2003, and recruitment ceased in December (completed in 2004).

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

Collaborators: National Centre in HIV Social Research; Taylor Square Private Clinic; Sydney Sexual Health Centre; Marrickville Sexual Health Centre; Holdsworth House General Practice; 407 Doctors

HIV natural history research

Diagnosis of anal intra-epithelial neoplasia (AIN) in homosexual men

A randomised controlled trial of proctoscope guided versus blind anal swabs for the diagnosis of AIN.

Status: 151 patients were enrolled, and the study ceased recruitment in 2003. In 2004, data analysis was completed and a manuscript was submitted to the journal *Sexually Transmitted Infections*.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Claire Vajdic, Jonathan Anderson

Collaborators: Albion Street Centre; Carlton Clinic, Dorevitch Pathology - Mayne Health, Melbourne

Anal intraepithelial neoplasia (AIN) and anal human papillomavirus (HPV) infection in homosexual men

A prevalence study of AIN and anal HPV infection in a community sample of HIV negative and HIV positive homosexual men.

Status: Ethics approval was sought to test men in ongoing NCHECR cohort studies for AIN and anal HPV infection from early 2005. 100 men in the HIV-positive cohort (pH study) and 100 men in the HIV-negative cohort (HIM study) will be enrolled.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Claire Vajdic, Garrett Prestage, Marina van Leeuwen

Collaborators: Dorevitch Pathology - Mayne Health, Melbourne; Sexually Transmitted Infections Research Centre; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: UNSW

Australian long-term nonprogressor (LTNP) cohort

A cohort study, established in 1994, of people with slowly progressive HIV disease.

Status: 72 individuals remained under active follow-up to the end of 2003. The majority of LTNP participants have now been infected with HIV for at least 15 years.

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Tony Kelleher

Collaborators: Long-term nonprogressor study group, including clinical sites in Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane; Centre for Immunology, St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; HIV Immunovirology Laboratory, Garvan Institute of Medical Research



Ann McDonald, Marina van Leeuwen, Melanie Middleton

Positive Health Study

A cohort study of the health and health-related behaviours of HIV positive people.

Status: A total of 520 people living with HIV/AIDS had been enrolled by the end of 2004, and 275 were interviewed in 2004, including 24 who were interviewed for the first time.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage, Andrew Grulich

Collaborators: National Centre in HIV Social Research; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS

Funding: NSW Health Department

Gay Sampling Project

Population estimates of homosexually active men.

Status: In 2004, surveys were conducted (967 completed questionnaires) among men recruited in inner-city and suburban locations in Sydney. Data from the Australian Census 2001, the Periodic Surveys, and the Australian Survey of Sex Health and Relationships, were reanalysed to estimate size of population of homosexual men in selected key locations in inner Sydney.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage; Daniel Madeddu; Andrew Grulich

Collaborators: Australian Research Centre in Sex Health and Society; AIDS Council of NSW; National Centre in HIV Social Research

Funding: Australian Research Council

Viral Hepatitis Program

The Viral Hepatitis Program expanded considerably during 2004, both in terms of personnel and the scope of its activities. Associate Professor Lisa Maher joined the Program, continuing the strong focus on injecting drug use that had been developed by Dr Margaret MacDonald, and strengthening qualitative research within the Program. Pip Marks joined the program in a newly created position of Clinical Trials Manager to oversee the expanding clinical trial-based research. The Viral Hepatitis Working Group, jointly auspiced by NCHECR and the Australian Liver Association, continued to oversee the clinical research activities of the Viral Hepatitis Program.



Greg Dore

Enrolment commenced into clinical trials examining interferon-based therapy in chronic hepatitis C (CHARIOT) and acute hepatitis C (ATAHC). The CHARIOT trial is a randomised study examining the safety and efficacy of induction dosing pegylated interferon

(in combination with ribavirin) in people with hepatitis C genotype 1, and will recruit from 31 clinic sites around Australia. The Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C (ATAHC) is a five year US National Institutes of Health-funded study examining the safety and efficacy of pegylated interferon monotherapy in acute and newly acquired hepatitis C. The study also examines the natural history of acute hepatitis C in an untreated prospective cohort.

Enrolment also commenced in the TICO trial, a randomised controlled trial examining the safety and efficacy of tenofovir for HIV/hepatitis B coinfection. The trial is in collaboration with HIV-NAT, Bangkok, with the majority of recruitment anticipated through their Bangkok clinics. A parallel hepatitis B monoinfection viral kinetics sub-study also commenced recruitment in 2004, and is the first NCHECR clinical research project in chronic hepatitis B infection outside of the context of HIV coinfection.

A further highlight of 2004 was the awarding of a US National Institutes of Health five year grant in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore and Melbourne Health to examine the natural history of HIV/hepatitis B coinfection, in particular the impact of highly active antiretroviral therapy.

During 2004, the Viral Hepatitis Program built on its previous strong track record in epidemiology and surveillance, with considerable strengthening of viral hepatitis clinical research and qualitative research.

Hepatitis B and C linkage

This study involves the cross matching of hepatitis B and C notifications to the NSW Health Department over the period 1992-2002 with the NSW Cancer Register and the National Death Index. The information will enable determination of the hepatitis B and C attributable fractions for liver cancer cases, and the liver cancer incidence, liver disease-related and overall mortality rates among people with chronic hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

Status: Analyses of cancer incidence for hepatitis C, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C/hepatitis B coinfection were completed. Linkage with National Death Index was also completed, with mortality incidence analyses ongoing.

Personnel: Janaki Amin, Greg Dore, Matthew Law

Collaborators: NSW Health Department; NSW Cancer Council; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Hepatitis C incidence in prisons (HITS)

Hepatitis C incidence and risk factors for seroconversion are determined among a cohort of seronegative prison inmates in New South Wales prisons. Incident hepatitis C cases undergo more intensive clinical and virological assessment to examine the early natural history of hepatitis C.

Status: Ongoing

Collaborators: Department of Pathology, UNSW; Royal Prince Alfred Hospital; Prince of Wales Hospital

Funding: NHMRC

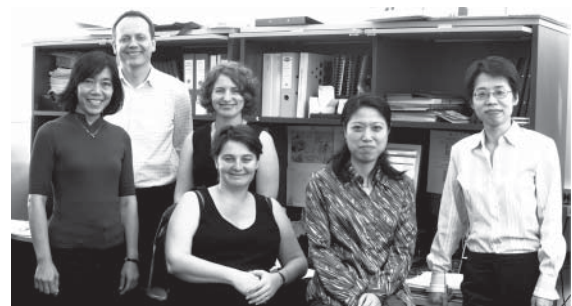
Hepatitis C incidence in methadone clients

Hepatitis C incidence among a retrospective cohort of hepatitis C seronegative methadone maintenance therapy clients at a primary care practice.

Status: Completed

Personnel: Greg Dore

Collaborator: The Byrne Clinic



Back row: Rosie Thein, Greg Dore, Elizabeth Knight
Front row: Carolyn Day, Wen Cao, Barbara Yeung

Natural history of acute hepatitis C

Studies to examine the natural history of acute and newly acquired hepatitis C, including rates and predictors of viral clearance, risk of reinfection and superinfection, and early virological evolution of hepatitis C. Such studies help define the extent of protective immunity following prior hepatitis C infection, and may provide important insights into hepatitis C vaccine development.

Status: A study of hepatitis reinfection and superinfection among a retrospective cohort of injecting drug users at Kirketon Road Centre was completed. A study of hepatitis C viral diversity in acute hepatitis C mono-infection and acute hepatitis C/HIV coinfection was designed.

Personnel: Joanne Micallef, Greg Dore

Collaborators: South-East Area Laboratory Service, Prince of Wales Hospital; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Kirketon Road Centre

Funding: Bayer Diagnostics

Natural history of HIV/hepatitis B coinfection

A prospective cohort of people with HIV/hepatitis B coinfection to examine the impact of highly active antiretroviral therapy on liver disease progression and provide a means for surveillance of resistance to hepatitis B active agents.

Status: A preliminary cross-sectional study of lamivudine resistance among people with HIV/hepatitis B coinfection has been undertaken. Virological outcomes among people with HIV/hepatitis B coinfection commenced on tenofovir at St Vincent's Hospital were also examined. Procedures were finalized for the prospective cohort, which will commence recruitment in early 2005.

Personnel: Gail Matthews, Wen Cao, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA; Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory; The Alfred Hospital; Royal Melbourne Hospital; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: Gilead Sciences; US National Institutes of Health

Tenofovir in HIV/hepatitis B coinfection (TICO)

A randomized controlled trial to compare the safety and efficacy of tenofovir versus lamivudine versus tenofovir plus lamivudine as anti-hepatitis B active agents within the HAART regimen. The trial also compares early hepatitis B viral responses in people with HIV/hepatitis B coinfection, and hepatitis B mono-infection.

Status: Recruitment commenced February 2004 (Australia), and August 2004 (Thailand)

Sites: 3 (2 Australia, 1 Thailand)

Enrolled/target: 18/36 for HIV/hepatitis B; 2/15 for hepatitis B

Personnel: Elizabeth Knight, Gail Matthews, Pip Marks, Chris Duncombe, Greg Dore

Collaborators: St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Royal Melbourne Hospital; The Alfred Hospital; Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory; HIV-NAT

Funding: Gilead Sciences

Australian trial in acute hepatitis C (ATAHC)

A study examining the natural history, safety and efficacy of pegylated interferon therapy for acute and newly acquired hepatitis C among injecting drug users.

Status: Recruitment commenced July 2004

Sites: 8/22 planned recruitment sites active

Enrolled/target: 20/240

Personnel: Carolyn Day, Anna Doab, Pip Marks, Gail Matthews, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Australian Liver Association/NCHECR Viral Hepatitis Working Group; Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; School of Pathology, UNSW; South-East Area Laboratory Service, Prince of Wales Hospital; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Prince Alfred Hospital; The Alfred Hospital; Kirketon Road Centre; Australian Hepatitis Council; Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug League (AIVL)

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; Roche Products Pty Ltd

Australian collaborative study in chronic hepatitis C genotype 1 (CHARIOT)

A randomised active control arm study examining the safety and efficacy of high dose induction pegylated interferon therapy, in combination with ribavirin, for chronic hepatitis C genotype 1 infection.

Status: Recruitment commenced August 2004

Sites: 24/31 planned recruitment sites active

Enrolled/target: 67/816

Personnel: Suzanne Polis, Elizabeth Knight, Barbara Yueng, Angeline Premnath, Pip Marks, Gail Matthews, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Australian Liver Association/NCHECR Viral Hepatitis Working Group; Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; Stuart Roberts, The Alfred Hospital; Australian network of hospital-based liver and hepatitis clinics

Funding: Roche Products Pty Ltd

Hepatitis C and quality of life: Neuro-psychological involvement (HEPCOG)

An open label trial of pegylated interferon and ribavirin to examine the impact of hepatitis C, treatment and viral clearance in neurocognitive impairment in people with HIV/hepatitis C coinfection, and hepatitis C mono-infection.

Status: Recruitment completed July 2004. Follow-up ongoing.

Enrolled: 18 HIV/hepatitis C coinfection; 16 hepatitis C mono-infection

Personnel: Rosie Thein, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Bruce Brew, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Paul Maruff, La Trobe University; David Koorey, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Funding: Roche Products Pty Ltd

Quality of life in hepatitis C

A systematic review of quality of life studies in hepatitis C. Translation of SF-36 scores into utility indices to enable estimates of quality of life impairment at different stages of liver disease and treatment outcome.

Status: Systematic review analyses were completed. Preliminary work was undertaken on impact of different hepatitis C treatment uptake scenarios on projected Australian hepatitis C-related liver disease burden.

Personnel: Rosie Thein, Matthew Law, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Murray Krahn, Department of Medicine and Health Policy, University of Toronto, Canada

Hepatitis C treatment strategies for injecting drug users

Studies to explore hepatitis C treatment needs among current injecting drug users and people on drug dependency treatment, and develop models of treatment delivery.

Status: A study comparing hepatitis C treatment referral and uptake among past injecting drug users (IDUs), current IDU and non-IDU groups within two community-based studies in Victoria was completed. A study on hepatitis C outcomes and treatment referral at a primary care-based methadone clinic was also completed. Preliminary work was undertaken on a national survey of hepatitis C treatment knowledge, attitudes and consideration.

Personnel: Carolyn Day, Anna Doab, Greg Dore

Collaborators: The Byrne Clinic; La Trobe University; Australian Hepatitis Council; Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL)

Evaluation of the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC)

Evaluation of the extension of the MSIC trial (Phase II, 2002-2007) involving primary and secondary data collection, including an observational cohort study of injecting drug users, Kirketon Road Centre retrospective clinical cohort, and local resident and business surveys.

Status: Preliminary work on development of indicators commenced.

Personnel: Lisa Maher

Collaborators: NSW Health Department; Ingrid van Beek; MSIC; Kirketon Road Centre; K2

Funding: NSW Health Department



Swati Shourie, Lisa Maher

NSW needle and syringe program (NSP) client census

Annual census of clients attending needle and syringe programs in NSW conducted in conjunction with the annual national NSP survey.

Status: Data entered and cleaned.

Personnel: Bethany White, Swati Shourie, Lisa Maher

Collaborator: NSW Health Department

Funding: NSW Health Department

Primary HIV Infection Research Program

2004 saw a continuation of activity into NCHCECR's special interest area of primary HIV infection. Central to the activities in this area was the implementation of the US National Institutes of Health-funded Acute Infection Early Disease Research Program (AIEDRP) in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital, a five-year program of research into treatment and pathogenesis of primary HIV infection.

The PULSE study of treatment interruption completed its follow up of 68 patients during 2004. Additional immunological sub-studies of factors associated with control of viremia were undertaken.

The Australian Primary HIV Infection Database

An ongoing prospective cohort of patients with Primary HIV infection.

Status: Since 2003 updated information was obtained in this cohort of over 400 people with newly acquired HIV infection with electronic downloading of laboratory data.

Personnel: Tim Ramacciotti, Pat Grey, Kathy Petoumenos, Don Smith

Collaborators: Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House General Practice; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Nick Medland, The Centre Clinic; Philip Cunningham, John Zaunders, Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Concerted Action on Seroconversion to AIDS and Death in Europe Study

The Concerted Action on Seroconversion to AIDS and Death in Europe (CASCADE) collaboration is a long term collaborative cohort study on the vital status, laboratory markers, antiretroviral treatment changes, and disease progression to discern whether survival or rate of progression to AIDS is altered by earlier treatment.

Status: 279 Australian subjects contribute to this cohort.

Personnel: Tim Ramacciotti, Don Smith

Collaborator: Concerted Action on Seroconversion to AIDS and Death in Europe, UK

Funding: Medical Research Council (UK)

Acute Infection Early Disease Research Program (AIEDRP)

A five-year program for research into the treatment and pathogenesis of primary HIV infection.

Status: Collaboration continued with Massachusetts General Hospital under the leadership of Bruce Walker, working in both Sydney and Melbourne with primary care and hospital sites on recruitment, follow up and treatment of people with primary HIV infection.

Personnel: Pat Grey, Tim Ramacciotti, Matthew Law, Don Smith, Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Partners AIDS Research Centre (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University, USA; National Institutes of Health, USA; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House General Practice; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Nick Medland, The Centre Clinic; Philip Cunningham, John Zaunders, Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Core01

The basic protocol of the AIEDRP network, by which acute and early patients are recruited and followed for five years, and within which interventional sub-studies may take place.

Status: 45 new participants were enrolled during 2004, making a cumulative total of 151. These patients will continue to be followed up until 2007.

Personnel: Tim Ramacciotti, Don Smith, Pat Grey, Anthony Kelleher, Mee-Ling Munier, Ansari Shaik

Collaborators: Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House General Practice; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Nicholas Medland, The Centre Clinic; Norman Roth, Prahran Market Clinic; Phillip Cunningham, John Zaunders, Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Kate McGhie, HIV Immunology Laboratory, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney; Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital) Harvard University, USA

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Primary HIV and early disease research – Australian cohort (PHAEDRA)

A systematic mechanism to recruit and follow up a cohort of people in Sydney and Melbourne with acute and early HIV-1 infection.

Status: 48 new participants were enrolled during 2004, making a cumulative total of 253. These patients will continue to be followed up until 2007. From September onwards new seroconverters were recruited to the AIEDRP Core01 cohort.

Personnel: Don Smith, Anthony Kelleher, Tim Ramacciotti, Mee-Ling Munier

Collaborators: Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House General Practice; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Nicholas Medland, The Centre Clinic; Norman Roth, Prahran Market Clinic; Phillip Cunningham, John Zaunders, Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Kate McGhie, HIV Immunology Laboratory, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney; Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital) Harvard University, USA

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

AIN502 Primary HIV Infection Structured Treatment Interruption Trial

A randomised multicentre trial to determine whether induction therapy followed by treatment interruption is superior to induction therapy alone in the treatment of primary HIV infection.

Status: Final regulatory approval was obtained.

Personnel: Pat Grey, Matthew Law, Don Smith, Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Partners AIDS Research Centre (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University, USA; National Institutes of Health, USA; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House General Practice; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Nick Medland, The Centre Clinic; Philip Cunningham, John Zaunders, Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health



Susan Lewis, Tim Ramacciotti, Patricia Grey, Don Smith, Ansari Shaik

Treatment interruption trial in primary HIV infection (PULSE)

A treatment interruption trial in primary HIV infection to determine whether control of the HIV virus can be achieved by the patient's own immune system using intermittent therapy initiated in primary infection.

Status: During 2004, the last patients completed the interruption cycles of the study and the primary analysis was undertaken.

Personnel: Don Smith, Pat Grey, Kathy Petoumenos, Katie Irvine, Mee-Ling Munier

Collaborators: Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House Private Practice; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Norman Roth, Prahran Market Clinic; Dr John Chuah, Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic; Kate McGhie, HIV Immunology Laboratory, Garvan Institute of Medical Research; John Zaunders, Phillip Cunningham, Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: Bristol Myers Squibb

Biostatistics and Databases Program

The Biostatistics and Databases Program combines both technical support and research functions. The primary functions of the Program are to ensure that across the wide range of NCHCR activities studies are designed appropriately from a statistical perspective, data are housed in properly specified robust databases, and statistical analyses are conducted to high scientific standards. Virtually all NCHCR research activity relies on these technical support functions. As well as supporting the Centre's other Programs' research, the Biostatistics and Databases Program has its own research activities, primarily in clinical cohort studies, mathematical modelling, and statistical methodology.



Matthew Law

The Program develops databases, based on Oracle software, for all NCHCR clinical trials, and also for a number of other studies. Of particular note during 2004 was the development of databases for a number of studies including the open label T-20 study (ML16992), the tenfovir

in HIV/hepatitis B coinfection study and the therapy for newly acquired hepatitis C study (see *Therapeutic and Vaccine Research* and *Viral Hepatitis Programs*). Biostatistical analyses were completed on the ROSEY, ML16992, PULSE and HVDDT vaccine studies (see *Therapeutic and Vaccine Research* and *Primary HIV Infection Research Programs*).

During 2004 the Program continued to undertake clinical cohort studies. The Australian HIV Observational Database (AHOD), now into its sixth year of operation with over 2,000 patients recruited from 26 sites, continued to provide regular information on antiretroviral use among patients with HIV infection in Australia. Data from AHOD also contributed to the Data Collection on Adverse Events of Anti-HIV Drugs (DAD) Study, a large, international collaborative observational study designed to evaluate the medium-term risk of cardiovascular disease in patients with HIV receiving antiretroviral drugs.

The TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database, an observational study involving several countries in the Asia-Pacific region, continued follow-up during 2004. Data from over 2,000 patients at 12 sites throughout the region were aggregated. Initial analyses concentrated on examining HIV disease progression and the effect of antiretroviral treatments in HIV-patients in the Asia-Pacific region.

One highlight for the program in 2004 was the award, in collaboration with a number of other groups, of a NHMRC Capacity Building Grant in mathematical modelling of infectious disease epidemics. This will allow a full-time post-doctoral researcher to be appointed from mid 2005, and significantly expand this area within the Program.

The Australian HIV Observational Database (AHOD)

Observational cohort study of patients with HIV. Demographic, clinical and treatment data are aggregated twice each year via electronic data transfer.

Status: The study has recruited some 2,357 patients from 27 sites throughout Australia, with ongoing follow-up.

Personnel: Kathy Petoumenos, Matthew Law

Collaborators: Network of clinical sites (GPs, hospitals and sexual health clinics) throughout Australia

Funding: Clinical Trials and Treatments Committee

The Data Collection on the Adverse Events of Anti-HIV Drugs Study (DAD)

Large, international, collaborative study aimed at assessing the medium to long-term effects of antiviral treatment of people with HIV in terms of possible increased risk of cardiovascular events.

Status: The study has recruited over 23,468 patients from 11 cohorts, Australia's contribution being 706 patients from the Australian HIV Observational Database, with follow-up continuing through 2006.

Personnel: Kathy Petoumenos, Matthew Law

Collaborators: Network of clinical sites (GPs, hospitals and sexual health clinics) throughout Australia); Copenhagen HIV Program

Funding: European Medicines Evaluation Agency (EMA)

Data from the highly specialised drugs program

Summary data of patients receiving antiretroviral treatments funded through the Highly Specialised Drugs Program are received from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and published in annual and biannual surveillance reports.

Status: Ongoing during 2004, with publication in NCHCR's surveillance reports.

Personnel: Kathy Petoumenos

Collaborator: Highly Specialised Drugs Program, Special Access and Coordination Section, Pharmaceutical Access and Quality Branch, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database

Observational cohort study of patients with HIV at eleven sites throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Demographic, clinical and treatment data are aggregated twice each year via electronic data transfer.

Status: At the data transfer in September 2004, baseline and retrospective data from some 2,089 patients were aggregated. Follow-up is to continue for at least a further 2 years.

Personnel: Jialun Zhou, Matthew Law

Collaborators: Network of 12 clinical sites at countries through the Asia-Pacific region

Funding: American Foundation for AIDS research (amfAR)

Biostatistics and database support

Writing clinical trial databases, and providing biostatistical input to the design and analysis of all NCHECR projects.

Status: During 2004, members of the Program actively contributed to the ROSEY, INITIO, Tenofovir HIV/HBV coinfection, Australian trial in acute hepatitis C (ATAHC), T-20 (ML16992), ITV extension study, PULSE and HVDDT vaccine studies.

Personnel: Matthew Law, Noorul Absar, Janaki Amin, Rossitza Chevenova, Kathy Petoumenos, Handan Wand, Jialun Zhou

Collaborators: Other Programs at NCHECR

Funding: Project-specific grants

Causes of death among ex-prisoners in NSW

Mortality rates among ex-prisoners in NSW between 1998 and 2002 are assessed by linkage between the Offender Management System at the Department of Corrective Services, and the National Death Index at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Status: Initial analyses of mortality rates post-release were performed during 2004. Further covariate analyses are ongoing.

Personnel: Matthew Law

Collaborators: Corrections Health Service; Azar Kariminia, Tony Butler, Centre for Health Research in Criminal Justice

Funding: NHMRC

Mathematical modelling of HIV and hepatitis C epidemics

Mathematical models are used to assess various aspects of HIV and hepatitis C epidemics in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Status: Previous mathematical models of HIV transmission among homosexual men in Australia were extended to investigate the contribution of regular and casual partners to ongoing HIV transmissions.

Personnel: Karina Razali (PhD student), Matthew Law

Collaborator: National Centre in HIV Social Research

Funding: University of Malaya



Back row: Janaki Amin, Matthew Law, Jialun Zhou
Front row: Kathy Petoumenos, Handan Wand, Noorul Absar

Simplified CD4 and HIV viral load monitoring schemes in Thailand

Biostatistical analyses and mathematical models are used to develop and assess simplified CD4 and HIV viral load monitoring schemes in Thai patients with HIV receiving antiretroviral treatment. Analyses are based on the HIV-NAT clinical trial database (see *Clinical and epidemiological research in the Asia-Pacific region*).

Status: Analyses of factors that predict CD4 and HIV viral load failure in Thai patients commencing antiretroviral treatment were completed.

Personnel: Preeyaporn Srasuebkul (PhD student), Matthew Law

Collaborator: HIV-NAT

Funding: American Foundation for AIDS research (amfAR)

Laboratory Support Program

The work of the Laboratory Support Program during 2004 can be divided into two categories. A substantial proportion of the laboratory's activity is directed towards providing routine or semi-routine laboratory procedures essential for the successful conduct of clinical trials and epidemiological studies, through processing of specimens and conduct of specialised assays. Secondly, the laboratory's senior scientists are responsible for their own research programs on pathogenesis.



Tony Kelleher

During 2004 the laboratory continued to support a wide range of clinical trials. The laboratory continued to play a pivotal role in the assessment of the immunogenicity of the Australian designed HIV-1 prophylactic vaccine constructs. As part of the ongoing phase I trial multiple assays to determine the magnitude and breadth of HIV-specific immune responses induced by the vaccine were conducted. These assays were critical to both primary and secondary endpoints of the trial. Assessment of the immune mechanisms underlying the apparent efficacy with regards to virological control of an Australian designed HIV-1 therapeutic vaccine was also commenced.

More basic and translational research was supported through the commencement of a NHMRC program grant, and exciting collaborations in T-cell biology aimed at aiding vaccine development were commenced with the three other groups who were co-awarded the grant (Peter Doherty's group and Stephen Kent's group, both at the University of Melbourne; and Ian Ramshaw's group at the Australian National University). The monies from this grant allowed the creation of a second academic position within the Program, and also allowed the upgrading of the multi-parameter flow cytometer to a 10 colour-12 parameter machine, permitting the continuation of cutting edge work to define new T-cell populations and relate them to disease outcome. During 2004, the laboratory also took delivery of a plate reading beta/gamma counter which was purchased in large part through a Ramaciotti Foundation grant. These pieces of equipment help the laboratory to remain internationally competitive.

Two research assistants within the Program, Mee-Ling Munier and David van Bockel, were successful in their application to the NHMRC for the highly competitive Dora Lush postgraduate scholarships. Both will commence their PhDs in 2005 using these scholarships.

Service and support

Specimen receipt and processing for clinical trials and natural history studies

The laboratory provides a service to other NCHECR Programs encompassing the separation of blood components; cryopreservation of serum, plasma and PMBC; and archiving and onshipping of samples. This allows for the smooth running of clinical trials and natural history studies.

Status: Ongoing

Investigators: Anthony Kelleher, Ciara McGinley

Collaborators: Kate McGhie, Maria Piperias, Julie Yeung, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: Project-specific grants

Immuno-phenotyping of T-cell subsets

Many NCHECR clinical trial and natural history protocols involve immunological substudies. The laboratory supports these substudies as a semi-routine service.

Status: Routine use of 6 colour multiparameter flow cytometry. Initial optimisation and validation of up to 10 colour panels commenced.

Investigators: Anthony Kelleher, Mee Ling Munier, Susanna Ip, David van Bockel

Collaborator: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: Project-specific grants

Assays of T-cell function, proliferation, cytotoxicity and identification of antigen specific T-cells, and assays of dendritic cell number and function

A range of assays for assessing CD4+ and CD8+ T-cell function are worked up in the laboratory. These include measures of T-cell proliferation, activation, cytokine secretion and identification of antigen-specific T-cells. Again, such assays are included in the protocols of clinical trials and natural history studies carried out by NCHECR. Enumeration of dendritic cell subpopulations and the cytokines they produce is now routine.

Status: Completion of the majority of intra cellular cytokine and ELISpot assays for the Phase I clinical trial as part of the HVDDT consortium. Development of a multiparameter flow cytometry-based assay to detect primed T-cells. Commencement of a range of T-cell and dendritic cell assays to define mechanisms behind efficacy of Virax's therapeutic vaccine.

Investigators: Anthony Kelleher, Mee-Ling Munier, Susanna Ip, David van Bockel, Kellie Cheung, Kersten Koelsch, Palanee Ammaronond (PhD student)

Collaborators: John Zaunders, ChoeChoe Brereton, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: Project-specific grants

HIV drug resistance and hepatitis C genotyping

This project involves the development of expertise in the application of a number of methods of detecting antiretroviral drug resistance through genotypic testing of HIV isolates, and the establishment of techniques for genotyping hepatitis C infection.

Status: Over 200 HIV-1 resistance genotypes performed. Optimal hepatitis C genotyping identified and established as a routine diagnostic tool.

Investigator: Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Philip Cunningham, Kazuo Suzuki, Leakhena Leas, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NSW Health Department

Transmission of resistance in primary infection

This study defines prevalence of resistance mutations in the Sydney population at primary infection, giving insight into the effect of widespread antiretroviral therapy on the prevalence of transmitted resistance virus in the Australian population.

Status: Subtype determination was performed on all sequences. Establishment of a protocol to screen for recombinants commenced. Protocol to screen for envelope sequences useful in vaccine constructs commenced. >40 genotypes performed on acute seroconverters.

Investigator: Anthony Kelleher, Kersten Koelsch, Palanee Ammaranond (PhD student)

Collaborators: Philip Cunningham, Kazuo Suzuki, Leakhena Leas, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Damian Purcell, Robert Centre, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NSW Health Department; NHMRC

Alternate serology for HIV, hepatitis C and hepatitis B surveillance using dried blood spots and oral fluids

Dried blood spot serology is used to generate surveillance data regarding the incidence and prevalence of HIV, hepatitis C and hepatitis B in injecting drug users. Further studies using oral fluids are being developed.

Status: > 2,000 Blood spots screened in 2004

Investigator: Anthony Kelleher

Collaborator: Philip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Brian Seckold, NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NSW Health Department

Laboratory surveillance of incident HIV infection

Laboratory markers are used to determine incident from established HIV infection to monitor the trends in newly acquired infections, forming an important sentinel surveillance tool. The application of the 'detuned' ELISA, and analysis of other routine laboratory markers used in the diagnosis of HIV infection, is used in monitoring new infections.

Status: All newly identified cases of HIV infection at the NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV at St Vincent's Hospital were analysed.

Investigator: Anthony Kelleher

Collaborator: Philip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Sara Evans, Lisa Martin, Joanna Sherring NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NSW Health Department

Pathogenesis research

Evolution of immune responses in primary infection and long-term nonprogressors

This study furthers mechanisms of viral escape from cytotoxic T-lymphocyte responses, and particularly the events leading up to escape from the HLA-B27 mediated T-cell response at the level of T-cell receptor usage. It employs samples and data gathered during the follow-up of the long-term nonprogressor cohort (see *HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program*), and samples collected from the PHAEDRA Cohort (see *Primary HIV Infection Research Program*).

Status: Novel escape mutations were defined for HLA B27 and A24.

Investigators: Anthony Kelleher, David van Bockel, Kersten Koelsch, Palanee Ammaranond (PhD student)

Collaborators: Akicichi Iwamoto, Tokyo University, Japan; Peter Doherty, Stephen Turner, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NHMRC

iRNA inducing viral latency

This project is established to determine the optimal design of dsRNAs for the induction of transcriptional gene silencing (TGS) of viral genes in HIV-1 infected cells; and to define the pathways by which dsRNAs targeting the promoter regions of HIV-1 induce TGS.

Status: Ongoing

Investigator: Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Kazuo Suzuki, Cathie Suter, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; David Martin, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney

CD4+ CCR5+ cytotoxic T-cells

This project involves investigations of the role of cytotoxic CD4+ CCR5+ T-cells in the outcome of disease in the long-term nonprogressor and PHAEDRA cohorts (see *HIV Epidemiology and Prevention and Primary HIV Infection Research Programs*).

Status: HIV specific CD4+ CCR5+ T-cells were definitively identified, and the time course of their appearance and disappearance was defined. The phenotype and functionality of these cells was exhaustively examined and defined.

Investigators: Anthony Kelleher, Mee-Ling Munier, Susanna Ip

Collaborators: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Daniel Kaufmann, Partners AIDS Research Centre, Massachusetts General Hospital, USA

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NHMRC



Back row: Ciara McGinley, Kellie Nallaiah, Susanna Ip, David van Bockel, Mee-Ling Munier, Rebecca Sedwell
Front: Anthony Kelleher

IL-7 receptor modulation

The impact of IL-7 and the expression of its receptor on T-cell subsets, T-cell homeostasis and CD4 T-cell recovery post HAART are being explored using both *in vitro* and *ex vivo* techniques.

Status: Subpopulations of CD4 and CD8 T-cells were defined on the basis of expression of IL-7 receptor components. The modulation of IL-7/IL-7R system through the different stages of HIV-1 infection was also defined.

Investigator: Anthony Kelleher, Sarah Sasson (PhD student)

Collaborators: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NHMRC

Molecular mechanisms of lipodystrophy

Six research projects are currently underway examining various aspects of the pathogenesis of HIV-associated lipodystrophy. A range of *ex vivo* molecular analyses, involving measurement of gene expression in both adipose tissue and peripheral blood, are being performed in the context of four clinical trials in both HIV-positive patients and HIV-negative healthy controls. In addition, the laboratory is also developing *in vitro* models to examine the effects of antiretroviral medications in both adipocyte and monocyte cell culture systems.

Status: Robust real time PCR analyses to quantify mitochondrial and nuclear gene expression and mitochondrial DNA content have been established, and are in routine use for samples from both clinical trials and cell cultures.

Investigators: Paddy Mallon, Rebecca Sedwell, Anthony Kelleher, Heidi Lim (Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) student)

Collaborators: Andrew Carr, Natalie Duarte, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Jane Li, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; Bristol-Myers Squibb; Boehringer-Ingelheim

Research outside Program areas

Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease

Analyses of the National Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Registry

Biostatistical and epidemiological advice and support is provided for the analysis and interpretation of Registry data.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Handan Wand

Collaborator: The Australia National Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Registry

Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies

Biostatistical and epidemiological advice and support regarding assessments of risk of transmission of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies through products derived from blood donations or foetal-calf serum is provided.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Matthew Law

Collaborators: Australian Red Cross Blood Service; Therapeutic Goods Administration; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Immune deficiency and cancer

NSW lymphoma case-control study

A case control study of risk factors for non-Hodgkin lymphoma in the general population.

Status: Data entry of the Medicare data prior to diagnosis was completed, and blood samples were analysed for hepatitis C infection. Data analyses for the key exposure areas, environment, occupation, immune function and infection were largely completed in 2004. Several manuscripts were submitted and accepted for publication.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Claire Vajdic

Collaborators: The University of Sydney; Viral Epidemiology Laboratory; US National Cancer Institute; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; University of Western Australia; Monash University

Funding: NHMRC

Cancer in kidney dialysis patients and kidney transplant recipients

A project to link the Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Register (ANZDATA) with the national cancer register to allow the identification of cancers that occur at increased rates, and the identifications of risk factors for development of cancer.

Status: Ethics approval was obtained for the population cancer rates from all States and Territories. ANZDATA extracted the data required for linkage and risk factor analyses, and progress was made with the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in defining the linkage algorithms and rules. Linkage with the only Australian population-based registry of non-melanocytic skin cancers, maintained by the Tasmanian Cancer Registry, was agreed and approved. Additional linkage with the WA Linked Database was proposed as an audit of the national linkage procedures.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Claire Vajdic, Matthew Law, Marina van Leeuwen

Collaborators: Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry (ANZDATA); University of Otago; Westmead Hospital

Funding: NSW Cancer Council

Clinical and epidemiological research in the Asia-Pacific region

Thailand

The Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT) was established in 1996. This partnership between NCHECR, the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre and the International Antiviral Therapy Evaluation Centre in Amsterdam is now in its eighth year, and continues to conduct research and training, and provide access to treatment for people living with HIV in Thailand.



Chris Duncombe

The HIV-NAT clinical trials network numbers 19 sites, ten in Bangkok and nine in provincial Thailand. In December 2004, 16 clinical studies were being conducted at the network sites, with more than 2,000 adults and children enrolled. Of these studies, 10 are HIV-NAT initiated, and in a further 6 studies

HIV-NAT and its affiliated sites participate as centres in international multicentre trials.

The STACCATO study of structured therapy interruption was the major project undertaken in 2004. This study, to be completed in 2005, aims to answer the key question of whether antiretroviral therapy can be safely interrupted and restarted depending on CD4 count.

Another key research question which remains unanswered is the optimum time to initiate antiretroviral therapy in children with HIV infection. It will be addressed in a new research program following a successful grant application to the US National Institutes of Health's Comprehensive International Program for Research on AIDS (CIPRA) by a consortium led by the Thai Red Cross and involving NCHECR and the Cambodian Ministry of Health. This four year program will be conducted at a number of sites in Thailand, and in Cambodia at the National Paediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh.

The HIV-NAT pharmacokinetic laboratory completed its first antiretroviral bio-equivalence study in healthy volunteers (HIV-NAT 018). Such studies are crucial to the validation of locally produced generic antiretrovirals, which are now an integral component of the Thailand's National Antiretroviral Therapy Program for People living with HIV/AIDS (NAPHA).

As studies are concluded, subjects are enrolled into HIV-NAT 006. This cohort study aims to collect long-term efficacy and safety data of different antiretroviral regimens in a Thai population. More than 250 participants are monitored in this study, with antiretroviral support from pharmaceutical industry sponsors, the Thai Government's National Access to Antiretroviral Programs for PLWHA (NAPHA), the HIV-NAT drug fund and patient co-payment. HIV-NAT supports the cost of monitoring of therapy with CD4 cell counts, safety chemistry and limited HIV RNA testing.

The HIV Netherlands Australia Thailand research collaboration: lessons from 7 years of clinical research was published in the journal *AIDS* in October 2004. It chronicles the lessons learned from seven years of research at HIV-NAT.

HIV-NAT 009

An open label, single arm, non-randomised study to evaluate the efficacy, safety and tolerability of indinavir 800 mg BID plus ritonavir 100 mg BID, in combination with efavirenz 600 mg OD, in HIV-1 infected patients who are pre-treated with and have failed combination nucleoside reverse transcriptase therapy. The study includes pharmacokinetic, fat biopsy, and lipodystrophy substudies.

Status: Recruitment opened June 2001, and was completed October 2001. The initial 48 week study was completed in September 2002. A fourth 48 week extension is now in progress and will be completed in July 2005.

Sites: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 60/60

Personnel: Mark Boyd, Chris Duncombe

Funding: Merck & Co Inc

HIV-NAT 012

The effect on HIV-1 elimination rate constant of combination antiretroviral therapy aimed at three independent HIV viral targets (fusion inhibition + reverse transcriptase inhibition + protease inhibition) compared to that aimed at two independent viral targets (reverse transcriptase inhibition + protease inhibition).

Status: Recruitment completed June 2003. Follow-up to be completed mid 2005.

Sites: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 36/36

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Mark Boyd

Funding: F. Hoffman-La Roche Ltd

HIV-NAT 018

Bio-equivalence study of generic GPO saquinavir tablets versus Invirase® in Thai healthy volunteers.

Status: Recruitment completed June 2004

Sites: HIV-NAT

Enrolled: 42

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: The Government Pharmaceutical Organisation, Thailand

STACCATO: The Swiss-Thai-Australia Treatment Interruption Trial

An open label, randomised study to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of continuous daily boosted saquinavir hard gel capsule/d4T/ddI versus structured treatment interruption (STI) of the same therapy either given for one week on therapy alternating with one week off therapy (week on/week off treatment) or given depending on CD4+ cell counts (CD4-guided treatment).

Status: Recruitment completed February 2004

Sites: 7

Enrolled/target: 400/300

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Mark Boyd

Funding: F Hoffman-La Roche Ltd, Swiss donations

HIV-NAT 006: A long-term, post study follow-up of HIV-infected patients who previously participated in HIV-NAT study protocols

Many early HIV-NAT studies are now completed. The HIV-NAT 006 study was designed for those with no other options with the objective of collecting long-term safety and efficacy data of different antiretroviral regimens and providing access to antiretrovirals and to monitoring for previous HIV-NAT trial participants.

Status: Recruitment opened June 2003

Sites: HIV-NAT

Enrolled: 260

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Mark Boyd

Funding: HIV-NAT

HIV-NAT 011

A single arm study to assess the use of pharmacokinetically guided indinavir dose reductions in patients with chronic renal impairment from indinavir use.

Status: Recruitment opened November 2002

Sites: HIV-NAT

Enrolled: 28

Personnel: Mark Boyd, Chris Duncombe

Funding: HIV-NAT

Roche/Trimeris rollover safety study protocol number T20-304/NV16390

The objectives of the study are to collect additional safety data (local injection site reactions, discontinuations, serious adverse events, AIDS defining events) on enfuvirtide in HIV-infected patients who have already received T-20 while participating in clinical pharmacology studies.

Status: Recruitment opened February 2003. Recruitment to be completed January 2005.

Sites: HIV-NAT

Enrolled: 24

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Mark Boyd

Funding: Roche Pharmaceuticals; Trimeris Inc

Salvage regimens for patients failing nucleoside, non-nucleoside therapy

An open label, randomised study to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of dual boosted protease inhibitor therapy with lopinavir/r 400mg/100mg BID plus saquinavir 1000mg BID versus ritonavir boosted indinavir (400mg/100mg BID) plus two nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTI) chosen by genotypic resistance testing in patients failing NNRTI/NNRTI combination therapy.

Status: Recruitment completed November 2004. Participants continue to be followed in the HIV-NAT 006 long term cohort study. The study sponsor has committed to provide ongoing antiretroviral therapy.

Sites: 12

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: Division of AIDS, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

PREDICT

ARV-naïve, HIV-infected children between one and twelve years of age with mild or moderate disease severity (CDC clinical category class A or B) and with moderate immune suppression (CD4 lymphocyte percentage between 15% and 24%) will be included in this study. They will be randomised to one of two arms: Immediate antiretroviral (ARV) therapy (ARV initiated on Day 0 of study) or deferred ARV therapy (ARV initiated when CD4% is less than 15%).

Status: In development

Sites: To be decided

Target: To be decided

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Julian Elliott

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs, Cambodia; National Institute for Public Health, Cambodia; Thai Red Cross

Funding: US National Institutes of Health via a grant to the Thai Red Cross

Cambodia

NCHECR continued to support the expansion of HIV treatment, care and research in Cambodia through an ongoing partnership with the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs (NCHADS) and the National Institute of Public Health (NIPH) of the Cambodian Ministry of Health.

Major achievements for the year included the establishment of a treatment clinic in Phnom Penh, and development of a comprehensive quality assurance program at the National Public Health Laboratory.

NCHECR staff were major contributors to the establishment of several national programs related to HIV treatment including health care worker training, data management and laboratory support including CD4 testing. Support was also provided by NCHECR for a successful application by Cambodia to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to expand national access to antiretroviral therapy to 75% of those in need by 2009.

The Prime Minister of Cambodia halted development of a randomised trial of tenofovir to prevent HIV infection in August 2004.



Staff outside the Social Health Clinic, Phnom Penh

Cambodia Treatment Access Program (CTAP)

Increasing access to antiretroviral treatment in Cambodia through establishment of treatment clinics and technical assistance to the national HIV treatment program.

Status: The Social Health Clinic was established in Phnom Penh in 2004. Recruitment and technical assistance is ongoing.

Personnel: Sarah Huffam, Julian Elliott, Jenne Roberts, Robert Oelrichs, Mary Poynten, Iona Millwood

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; National Institute for Public Health

Funding: F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

Study of daily oral tenofovir to prevent HIV-1 infection

This study is described under the *HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program*.



Jenne Roberts, John Kaldor, Julian Elliott, Sarah Huffam, Robert Oelrichs

Cambodian research program to support the optimal use of antiretroviral therapy

Investigation of antiretroviral efficacy and adherence with a program of qualitative, observational and interventional studies.

Status: Qualitative and observational studies were in development during 2004.

Personnel: Julian Elliott, Robert Oelrichs, Sarah Huffam, Jenne Roberts, Mary Poynten, Iona Millwood

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; National Institute for Public Health

Funding: AusAID

PREDICT

This study is described under *Thailand* above.

Indonesia

Indonesia HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project Phase II

This project supports the development and implementation of HIV care and treatment programs in Indonesia.

Status: NCHECR contributed to the project primarily through the Technical Advisory Team chaired by John Kaldor.

Collaborators: GRM International Pty Ltd; Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; Albion Street Centre

Funding: AusAID



Teaching and training highlights

NCHECR is involved in a wide range of teaching and training activities (see page 58) During 2004, NCHECR staff supervised 36 postgraduate students, including 28 doctoral candidates and one doctoral award. One student, Paddy Mallon, received the Royal Australasian College of Physicians NSW Advanced Trainee Research award for his doctoral work.

Academic staff at NCHECR continued to be responsible for three courses offered as part of the Master of Public Health degree at the University of New South Wales. Some 90 students passed through the core epidemiology course taught by NCHECR staff in 2004, and a further 35 undertook the specialised electives in epidemiology and HIV/AIDS. Over the years, students who have encountered the work of NCHECR through these courses have gone on to join the research staff at the Centre, and some now act as tutors for current students.

Forty seven general site coordinators, plus seven hepatitis C trial coordinators from around Australia and New Zealand, attended the Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program Trial Network Site Coordinators Meeting in Canberra in September 2004. Topics included an update on the current research areas of NCHECR. The day was evaluated extremely well overall.

Training provided by NCHECR also included field supervision of students placed from long term programs run by other institutions. Two overseas exchange students, Patrick Unemori from the University of San Francisco and Giulia Zanetti from the University of Padua, completing their degrees after very successful practicum attachments with NCHECR's laboratory in 2003. Also, Jonathan Volk was placed with NCHECR for one year under a Fullbright scholarship award.

NCHECR also contributed lectures to a variety of other postgraduate courses during the year, and several NCHECR staff were involved in tutorial-based teaching in the new UNSW medical undergraduate program.



Service highlights

During 2004 NCHECR staff continued to participate in a range of advisory bodies, working groups and committees relevant to HIV, hepatitis C and related areas (see page 54). These activities operate at a range of levels from local to international and ensure that NCHECR's researchers stay closely in touch with the real life applications of their work.

Several activities were of particular note, including NCHECR's participation in the XV International AIDS Conference: David Cooper co-chaired the Scientific Program Committee, Anthony Kelleher served on the Scientific Planning Committee for Track A (Basic Science), John Kaldor was Chief Rapporteur for Track C (Epidemiology and Prevention), and Anthony Kelleher and Sarah Pett were Rapporteur Team Members for Tracks A and B (Basic Science and Clinical Research, Treatment) respectively.

NCHECR staff also contributed to the Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis (MACASHH) through John Kaldor's membership of the Indigenous Australians' Sexual Health Committee, Andrew Grulich's membership of the HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmissible Infections Subcommittee, and Greg Dore's membership of the Hepatitis C Subcommittee.

David Cooper was appointed Local Conference Chair for the 4th International AIDS Society Conference on Pathogenesis and Treatment of HIV Infection to be hosted by the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine in Sydney in 2007, and John Kaldor was appointed Deputy Chair.

Other roles of note were David Cooper's chairmanship of the WHO/UNAIDS Vaccine Advisory Committee, his membership of the Steering Committee for the Cambodian Treatment Access Program, and his role as Project Advisor for the Comprehensive International Program of Research on AIDS (CIPRA) project on paediatric HIV treatment strategies in HIV-infected children in Thailand and Cambodia. Also, Greg Dore convened the 4th Australasian Conference on Hepatitis C, Anthony Kelleher served on the Immunovirology Research Network Steering Committee, and John Kaldor completed a nine year term as the Asian regional representative of the International AIDS Society Governing Council.



Personnel

This list includes both full time and part time staff. Contributions listed in this report relate only to individuals whose primary employment is with NCHECR.

Director's office

Director and Professor of Medicine

David A Cooper AO, BSc(Med), MB BS, DSc, MD, FRACP, FRCPA, FRCP

Executive Assistant

Janette Button

Deputy Director's office

Deputy Director and Professor of Epidemiology

John M Kaldor PhD

Epidemiology Group Coordinator*

Jennifer Kemp

Administrative Assistants*

Courtney Bendall DipBus (to March)

Shona Bridge BA, DipMgment (from July)

Kate Chivers (from July)

Carol Harris

Susan Lewis MA

Mark Thompson BBus (to March)



Kate Chivers, Jennifer Kemp, Carol Harris, Susan Lewis

Surveillance Program

The Surveillance Program is headed by the Deputy Director and is made up of staff from the HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program, the Viral Hepatitis Program, the Primary HIV Infection Research Program and the Biostatistics and Databases Program.

Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program

Head and Associate Professor

Sean Emery BSc(Hons), PhD

Associate Professor

Jennifer Hoy MB BS, GradDipEpiBio, FRACP

Lecturers

Dianne Carey BPharm, MPH

Kate Clezy MB BS, FRACP

Fraser Drummond MB ChB, MRCA, DA (UK)

Gillian Hales RN, BSc(Hons), PhD, GradCert (Higher Ed)

Paddy Mallon BSc(Hons), MB BCh, BAO

Sarah Pett BSc(Hons), MB BS(Hons), DTM&H, MRCP(UK), FRACP

Rebekah Puls BSc(Hons), PhD

Alan Winston MB ChB, MRCP(UK), DFFP, Dip GUM (from February)

Senior Clinical Project Coordinators

Cate Carey RN, BA, MAppSc(Research) (from August)

Allison Martin BSc, MSc(Med), GradDipPH (from August)

Clinical Project Coordinators

Cate Carey RN, BA, MAppSc (Research) (to July)

Brooke Cordwell BSc(Biomed) (to September)

David Courtney-Rodgers

Simone Jacoby BSc, Dip Nutrition, AdvDipBotMed (from September)

Allison Martin BSc, MSc(Med) (to July)

Susan Phipps RN, RM, GradCert(Ortho)

Claudette Satchell BSc(Hons)

Program Manager

Kirsten Bailey BA (from September)

Data Managers

Kymme Courtney-Vega DipSpTh

Wendy Lee

Robyn Munro

Administrative Assistants

Kirsten Bailey BA(to September)

Simone Jacoby BSc, Dip Nutrition, AdvDipBotMed (to September)

Alison Macdonald MCSP (from October)

Jennifer Tapp (from October)

Leeanne Thompson

HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program

Head and Associate Professor

Andrew Grulich MB BS, MSc, PhD, FAFPHM

Lecturers

Jonathan Anderson MB ChB, MSc (MedSci), Dip Ven, DRCOG, MRCP, FRACGP (to October)

Iona Millwood BA(Hons), PhD

Mary Poynten MB BS, Dip Child Health, MPH(Hons)

Garrett Prestage BA (Hons), PhD

Post Doctoral Research Fellow

Claire Vajdic BOptom, PhD

Senior Research Officers

Ann McDonald BSc, MPH

Daniel Madeddu (to October)

Research Assistants

Melanie Middleton BMedSc, MPH

Marina van Leeuwen BSc(Hons), MPH (from June)

Lucette Cysique BSc(Hons), MA (from March)

Project Manager

Brian Acraman

Study Nurse

Harry Smith MA

Project Officers

Jack Bradley

Paul Kelly

Patrick McGrath BA, DipEd

Daniel O'Neill (from May)

Hedimo Santana BA(Hons)

Viral Hepatitis Program

Head and Senior Lecturer

Greg Dore MB BS, BSc, PhD, FRACP, MPH

Associate Professor

Lisa Maher BA, MA, PhD (from March)

Lecturer

Gail Matthews MBChB, MRCP(UK)

Clinical Trials Manager

Pip Marks BSc (from October)

Clinical Project Coordinators

Wen Cao BMed, MPH (from October)

Carolyn Day BSc(Hons), PhD (from April)

Elizabeth Knight BSc, MPH (from September)

Suzanne Polis RN, BNursing, MPH (from February)

Angeline Premnath, BMedSc (from September)

Barbara Yeung RN, BHSc(Nursing), MPH (from October)

Research Assistants

Anna Doab RN, MPH

Swati Shourie BDSc, MDSc (from May)

Rosie Thein MB BS, MPH

Bethany White BA (Psych) (from December)

Administrative Assistant

Virginia Macdonald BSc(Hons), PhD, MPHTM

Primary HIV Infection Research Program

Head and Senior Lecturer

Don Smith MB ChB, MD (to May)

Clinical Project Coordinator

Patricia Grey RN, BA, DipEd, GradDipAppSci, DipCounselling

Senior Data Manager

Tim Ramacciotti BA(Hons), MD, MPH

Data Administrator

Ansari Shaik BA, MBA

Biostatistics and Databases Program

Head and Senior Lecturer

Matthew Law MA, MSc, PhD

Lecturer

Handan Wand MA, MSc, PhD

Senior Research Assistants

Janaki Amin BSc(Hons), MPH(Hons)

Kathy Petoumenos BSc, MA, MPH(Hons)

Research Assistant

Jialun Zhou MB, MPH

Computer Systems Officers

Noorul Absar BTech, GradDipInfSc, MComp(SW Engg)

Rossitza Chevkenova BSc (from March)

Laboratory Support Program

Head and Senior Lecturer

Anthony Kelleher BSc(Hons), MB BS(Hons), PhD, FRACP, FRCPA

Lecturer

Kersten Koelsch MD (from August)

Research Assistants

Kellie Nallaiah BMedSc (from August)

Susanna Ip BSc

Ciara McGinley CertAppBio

Mee-Ling Munier BSc, GradDipEpi, MSc

Sarah Sasson BA, BSc(Hons) (to January)

Rebecca Sedwell BSc (from January)

David van Bockel BBiotech(Hons) (to June)

Administrative Assistant

Kylie Butson

US National Institutes of Health, HIV Vaccine Design and Development Contract

Chief Operations Officer

Mark Sullivan BSc

Internationally-based staff

Senior Lecturers

Chris Duncombe MB BS (HIV-NAT, Thailand)

Sarah Huffam MB BS, FRACP, FACSH, MPH (NCHADS, Cambodia)

Stephen Kerr BPharm(Hons), MIPH, PhD (HIV-NAT, Thailand) (from June)

Lecturers

Mark Boyd BA, MB BS, FRACP, DTM&H (HIV-NAT, Thailand)

Julian Elliott MB BS, FRACP (NCHADS, Cambodia)

Research Fellow

*Robert Oelrichs BMedSc, MB BS, MD, PhD (NCHADS, Cambodia)

Project Manager

Jennifer Roberts M Intl Mgmt (NCHADS, Cambodia)

Finance and Administration

Manager

Bronwen Turner BA

Business Manager

Annie Tung MPA

Finance Managers

Janette Murdoch (from February)

Patricia Xu BEc, CPA (from March)

Librarian

Coralie Kronenberg BA, DipIMLib, AALIA

Human Resources Advisor

Penelope Lister BA, GradDipJap, MAHRI

Computer Systems Officers

Lisa Howard DipIT

Charles Tran BCompSc

Finance Administrator

Chloe Lin BSc, BComm, MComm

Office Administrator

Yvette Toole



Chloe Lin, Annie Tung, Patricia Xu, Janette Button, Bronwen Turner, Yvette Toole, Courtney Bendall, Ian Brodie, Janette Murdoch, Penelope Lister

Administrative Assistants

Courtney Bendall DipBus (from March)

Ian Brodie BEc, GradDipEd, AssDipHlthSc

Receptionists

Lara Cassar (to January)

Helen Laverty (from March)

John Redmond



Researchers affiliated to NCHECR

Honorary Visiting Professors

Alan Landay BSc, PhD (from July)
Professor of Medicine and Associate Chairman
Department of Immunology/Microbiology
Rush Medical College, Chicago, USA

Peter McDonald AM, MB BS, FRCPA, FRACP, FASM
Emeritus Professor
Flinders University, Adelaide

Norman Roth MB BS, Dip Ven
General Practitioner
Pahran Market Clinic, Melbourne

Cassy Workman MB BS
Director
AIDS Research Initiative, Sydney

Honorary Senior Visiting Fellow

Philip Cunningham BAppSc
Chief of Operations
Research Campus,
St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Honorary Visiting Fellows

Bruce Brew MB BS, MD, FRACP
Professor of Medicine
St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Nick Crofts MB BS, MPH, FAFPHM
Director
Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, Melbourne

Cathy Pell MB BS, MM
General Practitioner
Taylor Square Private Clinic, Sydney

Don Smith MB ChB, MD (from May)
Associate Professor
Head of Research Development
Albion Street Centre, Sydney

Alex Wodak MB BS, MRACP, FRACP, MRCP, FAFPHM
Senior Staff Specialist and Director
Alcohol and Drug Service
St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Honorary Visiting Lecturers

Mark Bloch MB BS, MMed
General Practitioner
Holdsworth House General Practice, Sydney

Robert Finlayson MB BS, Dip Ven, FACSHP
Sexual Health Physician
Taylor Square Private Clinic, Sydney

Robert Macfarlane MB BS, FRACGP
General Practitioner
407 Doctors, Sydney

Nicholas Medland MB BS, BA (Hons), Dip Ven
General Practitioner
Centre Clinic, Melbourne



Training or student placements at NCHECR

Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) student

Heidi Lim (from July)

Doctor of Philosophy students

Palanee Ammaranond B Medtech, M Biotech

Jeff Jin BMed, MPH

Azar Kariminia BMedSc, MSc(RHS&HG) (from April)

Joanne Micallef BMedSc(Hons)

Fatemah Nakhee BSc, MSc

Karina Razali BSc(BioSc), MSc(EpiID) (from March)

Sarah Sasson BA, BSc(Hons) (from February)

Preeyaporn Srasuebkal BSc, MSc

Rosie Thein MB BS, MPH

David van Bockel BBiotech(Hons) (from June)

Fullbright Scholar

Jonathan Volk BA(Psych) (University of California, San Francisco, USA) (from August)

Master of Applied Epidemiology (Indigenous Health) student

Chris Lawrence

Master of Health Science (Sexual Health) student

Ellie King BSc (Hons) (The University of Sydney)
(from March to August)

Master of Public Health by research student

Juliet Babirye MBChB (from March)

NSW Health Department Trainee Biostatistician

Katrina Irvine BSc (Psych), MPsych(Org)
(from September)

Visiting Fellow

Fabrice Bonnet MD, PhD (from November)
(Bordeaux University Hospital, France)

Visiting Research Associate

Tianxin Chu MMed (Beijing Centre for Disease
Prevention and Control, China)



Preeyaporn Srasuebkal, Jeff Jin, Joanne Micallef, Jonathan Volk, Fatemeh Nakhaee, Fabrice Bonnet



Collaborating organisations

National

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
Australia and New Zealand Transplant Registry (ANZDATA), Sydney
Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Canberra
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Sydney
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra
Australian Hepatitis Council, Canberra
Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League, Canberra
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Canberra
Australian Liver Association, Sydney
Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit, and its contributors, Sydney
Australian Red Cross Blood Service, Sydney
Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne
Communicable Diseases Network Australia, Canberra
HIV/AIDS Sexually Transmitted Infections Committee, Canberra
Intergovernmental Committee on AIDS, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases, Canberra
Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis (MACASHH), Canberra
National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Sydney
National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases, Sydney
National Centre in HIV Social Research, Sydney
National Centre in HIV Virology Research, Melbourne
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney
National Drug Research Institute, Perth
National Serology Reference Laboratory, Australia, Melbourne
Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH), Canberra
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Sydney
The Australian National Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Registry, Canberra

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Corrective Services, Canberra
AIDS Action Committee of the ACT, Canberra
Assisting Drug Dependents Inc, Canberra
Australian National University, Canberra
Brindabella Imaging, Canberra Imaging Group (CIG), Canberra
Canberra Sexual Health Clinic, Canberra

Communicable Disease Control Program, ACT Health, Canberra
Directions ACT Programs, Canberra
Interchange General Practice, Canberra
John Curtin School of Medical Research, Canberra
The Canberra Hospital, Canberra

New South Wales

407 Doctors, Sydney
Aboriginal Medical Service Coop Ltd, Sydney
AIDS Council of NSW (ACON), Sydney
AIDS Research Initiative, Sydney
Albion Street Centre, Sydney
Albury Base Hospital, Albury, NSW
Albury Community Health Centre, Albury, NSW
Area Public Health Units, NSW Health Department, Sydney
Auburn Community Health Centre, Sydney
Bankstown Health Service, Sydney
Bigge Park Medical Centre, Sydney
Blacktown Community Health Centre, Sydney
Bligh Street Clinic, Tamworth, NSW
Blue Mountains Sexual Health Clinic, Katoomba, NSW
Cabramatta Drug Intervention Services, Sydney
Cabramatta Street Youth Program (ICON), Sydney
Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
Communicable Diseases Branch, NSW Health Department, Sydney
Concord Hospital, Sydney
Corrections Health Service, Sydney
Darlinghurst X-Ray, Sydney
Department of Infectious Diseases and Immunology, The University of Sydney, Sydney
First Step Program, Port Kembla, NSW
Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney
General Medical Practice, Burwood, Sydney
Greater Murray Area Health Needle and Syringe Program, Albury, NSW
Harm Minimisation Services, Sydney
Harm Reduction Program, Sydney
Holden Street Clinic, Gosford, NSW
Holdsworth House General Practice, Sydney
Illawarra Sexual Health, Port Kembla, NSW
Immunology and Microbiology Department, The University of Newcastle, Newcastle, NSW
Indo-Chinese Outreach Network (ICON), Sydney
Institute for Health Research, Sydney
John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, NSW
Justice Health, Sydney

K2 Health Service, Sydney
 Kirketon Road Centre, Sydney
 Kogarah Needle and Syringe Program, Sydney
 Liverpool Hospital, Sydney
 Livingstone Road Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 Macquarie Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 Medically Supervised Injecting Centre, Sydney
 Multicultural HIV/AIDS Service, Sydney
 Needle and Syringe Program Services, Royal
 Newcastle Hospital, Newcastle, NSW
 Nepean Hospital, Penrith, NSW
 Nepean Sexual Health and HIV Clinic, Penrith, NSW
 Northern Rivers Health Service, Lismore, NSW
 NSW Health Department, Sydney
 People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), Sydney
 Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney
 Resource and Education Program for Injecting Drug
 Users, Sydney
 Responsive User Services in Health (RUSH), Sydney
 Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney
 Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney
 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney
 School of Public Health and Community Medicine,
 UNSW, Sydney
 School of Public Health, The University of Sydney,
 Sydney
 Sexual Health and Infectious Diseases Service
 (SHAIDS), Lismore, NSW
 Sexually Transmitted Infections Research Centre,
 Westmead Hospital, Sydney
 South Court Primary Care Centre Needle and Syringe
 Program, Penrith, NSW
 South Western Sydney Area Health Service, Sydney
 St George AIDS Prevention Unit, Sydney
 St George Hospital, Sydney
 St Leonards Medical Centre, Sydney
 St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
 St Vincent's Medical Imaging, Sydney
 Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney
 Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 SydPath, Sydney
 Taylor Square Private Clinic, Sydney
 The Byrne Surgery, Sydney
 The Cancer Council NSW, Sydney
 The Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine and Cell
 Biology, The University of Sydney, Sydney
 The Medical and Vein Centre, Coffs Harbour, NSW
 Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney
 Wentworth HIV and Sexual Health Service, Penrith,
 NSW
 Western Area Adolescent Team, Mount Druitt, NSW
 Western Sydney AIDS Prevention and Outreach
 Service, Sydney

Western Sydney HIV/Hepatitis C Prevention Service,
 Sydney
 Westmead Hospital, Sydney
 Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research,
 Sydney

Northern Territory

Clinic 34, Darwin
 Communicable Disease Centre, Royal Darwin
 Hospital, Darwin
 Department of Correctional Services, Darwin
 Northern Territory AIDS Council, Darwin
 Palmerston Needle and Syringe Program,
 Palmerston, NT

Queensland

AIDS Medical Unit, Queensland Health, Brisbane
 Biala Alcohol and Drug Services, Brisbane
 Blackall Terrace Specialist Centre, Nambour, Qld
 Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, Brisbane
 Brunswick Street Medical Centre, Brisbane
 Cairns Base Hospital, Cairns, Qld
 Cairns Sexual Health Service, Cairns, Qld
 Drug Users Network Education and Support (DUNES)
 Needle and Syringe Program, Miami, Qld
 Gladstone Road Medical Centre, Brisbane
 Gold Coast Hospital, Southport, Qld
 Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, Miami, Qld
 GRM International Pty Ltd, Brisbane
 Mackay Sexual Health Services, Mackay, Qld
 Nambour General Hospital, Nambour, Qld
 Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane
 Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane
 Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Forum,
 Brisbane
 Queensland AIDS Council (QAC), Brisbane
 Queensland Corrective Services Commission, Brisbane
 Queensland Health, Brisbane
 Queensland Intravenous AIDS Association (QUIVAA),
 Brisbane
 Queensland Medical Laboratory (QML), Brisbane
 Queensland Needle and Syringe Program, Brisbane
 Queensland Positive People, Brisbane
 Royal Brisbane Hospital, Brisbane
 Sexual Health Service, Cairns Base Hospital, Cairns, Qld
 Sexual Health Services, Toowoomba Hospital,
 Toowoomba, Qld
 Southcoast Radiology, Pindara Hospital, Benowa, Qld
 Sunshine Coast Intravenous AIDS Association
 (SCIVAA), Maroochydore, Qld
 Toowoomba Needle and Syringe Program,
 Toowoomba, Qld
 Townsville Aboriginal and Islanders Health Services
 Limited, Townsville, Qld

Townsville Hospital, Townsville, Qld
West Moreton Sexual Health Service, Brisbane

South Australia

AIDS Council of South Australia, Adelaide
Clinic 275, Adelaide
Flinders Clinical Trials Pharmacy, Adelaide
Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide
Harm Minimisation Program, Hindmarsh Centre, Adelaide
Infectious Diseases Laboratories, Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, Adelaide
Noarlunga Health Village, Noarlunga, SA
Northern Metropolitan Community Health Service (CHS) and Shopfront, Salisbury, SA
Nunkuarrin Yunti Health Services, Adelaide
O'Brien Street Practice, Adelaide
Parks Community Health Centre, Adelaide
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide
Shopfront Youth Health and Information Services, Adelaide
South Australian Voice for Intravenous Education, Adelaide
The Care and Prevention Program, Adelaide University, Adelaide
Warinilla Clinic, Norwood, SA

Tasmania

Devonport Community Health Service Centre, Devonport, Tas
Michael Welch General Practice, Hobart
Nufit Alcohol and Other Drug Services, Glenorchy, Tas
Prison Health Services Tasmania, Hobart
Public and Environmental Health, Department of Community and Health Services, Hobart
Royal Hobart Hospital, Hobart
Tasmanian Council on AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases (TasCAHRD), Hobart

Victoria

Austin Repatriation Medical Centre, Melbourne
Barwon Health, Geelong, Vic
Box Hill Hospital, Melbourne
Cogstate Ltd, Melbourne
CSIRO Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong, Vic
Dorevitch Pathology – Mayne Health, Melbourne
Health Information Exchange, Melbourne
Health Works, Melbourne
Immunology and Microbiology Department, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne
Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne
Melbourne Inner City AIDS Prevention Centre (MINE), Melbourne

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, Melbourne
Middle Park Clinic, Melbourne
Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne
Northcote Clinic, Melbourne
People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), Melbourne
Positive Living Centre, Melbourne
Prahran Market Clinic, Melbourne
Royal Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne
South East Alcohol and Drug Services, Outreach and Prevention Program, Melbourne
Southern Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS Resource and Prevention Service (SHARPS), Melbourne
St Kilda Needle and Syringe Program, Melbourne
St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne
The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne
The Carlton Clinic, Melbourne
The Centre Clinic, Melbourne
Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Health Centre (GMHC), Melbourne
Victorian Cytology Service, Melbourne
Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, Melbourne
Western Hospital, Melbourne

Western Australia

Centre for Clinical Immunology & Biomedical Statistics, Perth
Communicable Disease Control Directorate, Department of Health, Perth
Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, Perth
Fremantle Hospital, Perth
Maylands Western Australia User's Association (WASUA), Perth
Ministry of Justice, Strategic and Specialist Services Division, Perth
Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, Perth
Royal Perth Hospital, Perth
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth
Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, Perth
WA AIDS Mobile Exchange, Perth
Western Australian AIDS Council, Perth
Western Australian Substance Users Association, Perth and Bunbury, WA

International

Academic Medical Centre, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Agence Nationale pour la Recherche de SIDA (ANRS), Paris, France
AIDS Clinical Centre, International Medical Centre of Japan, Tokyo, Japan
AIDS Epidemiology Group, University of Otago Medical School, Dunedin, New Zealand
AIDS Malignancy Consortium, Alabama, USA

American Foundation for AIDS Research, New York, USA

Asia Regional Office, Family Health International (FHI), Bangkok, Thailand

Auckland Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand

Auckland Sexual Health Clinic, Auckland, New Zealand

Bamrasnaradura Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

Beijing Ditan Hospital, Beijing, China

Buddhachinnaraj Hospital, Phitsanulok, Thailand

Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, Ottawa, Canada

Canadian Trials Network (CTN), Vancouver, Canada

Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, University of California, San Francisco, USA

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA

Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, Health Canada, Ottawa, Canada

Centre Regional D'Essais Clinique VIH, Montreal, Canada

Centro de Asistencia e Investigacion Clinica de Inmunocomprometidos (CAICI), Rosario, Argentina

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London, UK

Chiang Rai Regional Hospital, Chiang Rai, Thailand

Chiba University, Chiba, Japan

Chonburi Regional Hospital, Chonburi, Thailand

Christchurch Hospital, Christchurch, New Zealand

Chulalongkorn Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

Columbia University, New York, USA

Community Information and Epidemiological Technologies Group, Canada Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

Community Research Initiative of New England, Boston, USA

Denver Infectious Disease Consultants, Denver, USA

Department of HIV/GUM Research, Brighton, UK

Department of Maori and Pacific Health, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

Division of Public Health and Psychosocial Studies, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland, New Zealand

Division of Statistics, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA

Faculty of Arts and Education, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

Family Health Institute, Family Health International (FHI), North Carolina, USA

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 Chiron Therapeutics, Emeryville, USA
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Don Smith MB ChB, MD
NCHECR

Patricia Grey BA, Post Grad Dip AppSc, CNS, Dip(Counselling) (Convenor)
NCHECR

Toxicology/Pharmacology Working Group

Andrew Carr MD, FRACP, FRCPA (Chair)
Associate Professor and Staff Specialist, Department of Immunology and HIV Medicine, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Anthony Allworth MB BS, FRACP, FRCPA, FACTM, MASM
Director, Infectious Diseases Unit, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Brisbane

Mark Bloch MB BS
General Practitioner, Holdsworth House General Practice, Sydney

Alan Brotherton BA
Manager, Information Services and Gay Men's Health, AIDS Council of New South Wales, Sydney

Jennifer Hoy MB BS, FRACP
Associate Professor and Head, Clinical Research Section, Infectious Diseases Unit, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Debbie Marriott BSc(Med), FRACP, FRCPA
Senior Staff Specialist, Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

David Menadue BA, BAEd
Care and Support Spokesperson, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Melbourne

Anne Mijch MB BS(Hons), FRACP, OAM (Deputy Chair)
Head, Victorian HIV Service, Infectious Diseases Unit, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Patrick Rawstone BA(Hons)
Research Fellow, National Centre in HIV Social Research, Sydney

Tim Read MB BS
Sexual Health Physician, Melbourne Sexual Health Clinic, Melbourne

David Shaw MB BS, FRACP
Director, Infectious Diseases and Infection Prevention Units, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide

David Sowden MB BS, BS DIP, RACOG, FRACP, FRCPA
Infectious Diseases Physician, Nambour General Hospital, Nambour, Qld

Handan Wand MA, MS, PhD
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Paddy Mallon MB, BCh, BAO, BSc(Hons) (Convenor)
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Oncology Working Group

David Goldstein MB BS, MRCP(UK), FRACP (Chair)
Associate Professor and Senior Staff Specialist, Department of Medical Oncology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney

Jonathan Anderson MB ChB, FRACGP, DRCOG, DipVen, MSc(MedSci)
General Practitioner, The Carlton Clinic, Melbourne

Trish Bullen RN, RITN
Manager, Sexual Health Program, Macquarie Area Health Service, Dubbo, NSW

Mitchell Chipman MB BS, FRACP (Deputy Chair)
Medical Oncologist, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

John Daye OAM
Treatments Spokesperson, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Melbourne

Andrew Grulich MB BS, MSc, DRACOG, FAFPHM, PhD
NCHECR

Richard Hillman BSc(Hons), MD, FRCP, FACSH
Senior Lecturer and Senior Staff Specialist, STI Research Centre, Westmead Hospital, Sydney

Sam Milliken MB BS, FRACP, FRCPA
Senior Lecturer and Senior Staff Specialist, Department of Haematology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

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Director, Sexually Transmitted Infections Research Centre, Westmead Hospital, Sydney

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Kate Clezy MB BS, FRACP (Convenor)
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Immune-Based Therapies Working Group

Sharon Lewin MB BS(Hons), FRACP, PhD (Chair)

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Professor, Department of Medicine, Monash University, Melbourne

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John Chuah BSc(Med)Hons, MB BS, FACSHP

Director, Gold Coast Sexual Health, Miami, Qld

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Anthony Kelleher BSc(Hons), MB BS(Hons), PhD, FRACP, FRCPA

NCHECR

Mark Kelly MB BS(Hons), FRACP

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Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne

Alan Landay PhD (from August)

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Matthew Law MA, MSc, PhD

NCHECR

Kirsty Machon BAComm, MA, GradDipArts

HIV Health Policy Officer, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Sydney

Simon Mallal BMedSci(Hons), MB BS, FRACP, FRCPA

Professor and Executive Director, Centre for Clinical Immunology and Biomedical Statistics, Royal Perth Hospital, Perth

Paul McQueen BSc, GradDipBiotech, PhD Biotech, MASM

Community Representative, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Sydney

Graeme Stewart BSc(Med), MB BS, PhD, FRACP, FRCPA

Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Immunology, Department of Clinical Immunology and Allergy, Westmead Hospital, Sydney

John Sullivan PhD, MPH

Principal Scientist, Australian Red Cross Blood Service, Sydney;
Associate Professor, Transfusion Medicine & Immunogenetics Research Unit, Central Clinical

School, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Sydney, Sydney

Sarah Pett BSc(Hons), MB BS(Hons), DTM&H, MRCP (UK), FRACP (Convenor)

NCHECR

Neurology Working Group

Bruce Brew MB BS(Hons), MD, FRACP (Chair)

Professor and Head, Department of Neurosciences and Neurology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Margaret Bain BSc(Psych), MCLinPsych, MCLinNeuropsych

Neuropsychologist, HIV Neuropsychology Service, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Catherine Cherry MB BS, FRACP

Infectious Diseases Physician, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Steve Ellen MB BS, MMed(Psych), FRANZCP

Head, Consultation – Liaison Psychiatry, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Paul Gorry PhD

Head, HIV Molecular Pathogenesis Laboratory, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne

Barrie Harrison BSc(Hons), PhD

Treatments and HIV Health Promotion Officer, AIDS Council of New South Wales, Lismore, NSW

Matthew Law MA, MSc, PhD

NCHECR

Christopher Lee MB BS (Malaysia), MRCP (UK)

Consultant Physician, Hospital Besar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Patrick Li MB BS, FHKCP, FHKAM (Medicine), FRCP (London), FRCP (Edinburgh)

Chief of Service, Department of Medicine, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hong Kong

Catriona McLean BSc, MB BS, FRCPA, MD

Consultant Pathologist, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Patricia Price PhD

Senior Lecturer, School of Surgery and Pathology, The University of Western Australia, Perth

Nitin Saksena BSc, MSc, PhD

Head, Retroviral Genetics Division, Centre for Virus Research, Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research, Sydney

Jo Watson

Executive Officer, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Sydney

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Director, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne

Edwina Wright MB BS, FRACP (Deputy Chair and Convenor)
Infectious Diseases Specialist, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Viral Hepatitis Working Group

William Sievert MD, FRACP (Chair)
Head of Hepatology, Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne

Janaki Amin BSc(Hons), MHP(Hons)
NCHECR

David Baker MB ChB
General Practitioner, 407 Doctors, Sydney

Robert Batey MSc(Med)(Hons1), MB BS(Hons2), MD, FRACP, FRCP
Clinical Chair, Division of Medicine, John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, NSW;
Area Director, Drug and Alcohol Clinical Services, Hunter Area Health Service, Newcastle, NSW

Chris Burrell BSc(Med), MB BS, PhD, FRCPATH, FRCPA
Professor of Virology, University of Adelaide, Adelaide

Darrell Crawford MD, FRACP (Deputy Chair)
Associate Professor of Medicine, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane

Greg Dore BSc, MB BS, FRACP, MPH, PhD
NCHECR

Geoff Farrell MD, FRACP
Robert W Storr Professor of Hepatic Medicine, Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research, Sydney

Margaret Hellard MB BS, FRACP, PhD, FAFPHM
Head, Epidemiology and Social Research Program, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne

Susan Kippax BA(Hons), PhD
Professor and Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research, UNSW, Sydney

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Associate Professor and Consultant Infectious Diseases Physician, Department of Infectious Diseases, Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney

Stephen Locarnini MB BS, BSc(Hons), PhD, FRCPATH
Divisional Head, Research and Molecular Development, Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, Melbourne

Geoff McCaughan MB BS, FRACP, PhD
Professor of Medicine and Director, AW Morrow GE and Liver Centre, The University of Sydney and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney;
Head, Liver Immunobiology Group, Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine and Cell Biology, Sydney

Stuart Roberts MB BS, FRACP (from May)
Deputy Director, Department of Gastroenterology, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Joe Sasadeusz MB BS, FRACP, PhD
Infectious Diseases Physician, Royal Melbourne Hospital and The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Ingrid van Beek MB BS, MBA, FAFPHM
Director, Kirkeaton Road Centre, Sydney

Jack Wallace
Executive Officer, Australian Hepatitis Council, Canberra

Gail Matthews MB ChB, MRCP (Convenor)
NCHECR

Research Coordinator Working Group

Helen Fraser RN, BN, MPH, HIVCert (Chair)
Coordinator, HIV Clinical Trials Unit, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Kate Fisher BA, BNurs
NSW GP Enhanced Care Project Officer, AIDS Council of New South Wales, Sydney

Jeff Hudson RN
Clinical Research Manager, Dr Doong's Surgery, Sydney

Kathy Petoumenos BSc, MA, MPH(Hons)
NCHECR

Jenny Skett RN (Deputy Chair)
Study Nurse, Royal Perth Hospital, Perth

Alan Walker RN, BA, GradDipAppSci, MPH
Nurse Unit Manager, Nambour General Hospital, Nambour, Qld

Helen Wood RN
Clinical Research Coordinator, The Centre Clinic, Melbourne

Janelle Zillman RN
Clinical Nurse, Infectious Diseases, Day Therapy Unit, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Brisbane

Cate Carey RN BA MAppSci (Convenor)
NCHECR

NCHECR Working Groups *ex officio*

David A Cooper AO, DSc, MD, FRACP, FRCPA, FRCP
NCHECR

Anthony Cunningham MB BS, BMedSci(Hons), MD, FRACP, FRCPA, FASM
Director, Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research and Centre for Virus Research, Sydney

Sean Emery BSc(Hons), PhD
NCHECR

John M Kaldor PhD
NCHECR

Matthew Law MA, MSc, PhD
NCHECR



External boards, committees and advisory groups

3rd International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis and Treatment, Prevention Sciences, Scientific Programme Committee

(David Cooper, John Kaldor)

4th Australasian Conference on Hepatitis C Conference Committee

(Greg Dore, Convener)

4th International Conference on Urban Health Scientific Advisory Committee

(Lisa Maher)

6th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV Organising Committee

(David Cooper)

7th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine Organising Committee

(David Cooper)

9th International Conference on Malignancies in AIDS Organising Committee

(Andrew Grulich)

15th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm Scientific Program Committee

(Lisa Maher)

Acute Infection and Early Disease Research Program, Pathogenesis Working Group

(Anthony Kelleher)

Acute Infection and Early Disease Research Program, PHAEDRA Steering Committee

(Anthony Kelleher)

Acute Infection and Early Disease Research Program, Structured Treatment Interruptions Trial Steering Committee

(Anthony Kelleher)

AIDS Council of New South Wales Board

(Garrett Prestage)

AIDS Council of New South Wales, Increase in Infections Working Group

(Garrett Prestage)

AIDS Editorial Board

(David Cooper, Andrew Grulich)

amfAR TREAT Asia Steering Committee

(David Cooper, Greg Dore)

AusAID Indonesia HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project Phase II, Technical Advisory Team

(John Kaldor, Chair)

Australasian Health & Research Data Managers Association, Education Sub-Committee

(Pip Marks)

Australasian Health & Research Data Managers Association Executive Committee

(Elizabeth Knight, Pip Marks)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Antiretroviral Guidelines Panel

(Fraser Drummond)

Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, Clinical Standards Panel

(Paddy Mallon)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Hepatitis C Clinical Subcommittee

(Suzanne Polis)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, International Standing Committee

(John Kaldor, Robert Oelrichs)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, National Clinical Subcommittee

(Fraser Drummond)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, National Committee

(Andrew Grulich, immediate past President)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, NSW Hepatitis C Prescriber Trial Clinical Subcommittee

(Greg Dore, Chair)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Standing Committee on Viral Hepatitis

(Greg Dore, Chair; Lisa Maher)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Treatment Subcommittee

(Fraser Drummond)

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, HIV Vaccine Policy Reference Group

(Andrew Grulich)

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Indigenous Injecting Drug User Project Reference Group

(Lisa Maher)

Australian Hepatitis Associate Committee

(Suzanne Polis)

Cambodian National Continuum of Care, Sub-working Group on Health Facility-Based Care

(Julian Elliott)

- Cambodian National Continuum of Care, Sub-working Group on Home and Community-Based Care
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Continuum of Care, Sub-working Group on Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Continuum of Care, Technical Working Group
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Protection of Maternal to Child Transmission Committee
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Steering Committee on HIV Care Training for Clinicians
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Sub-working Group on HIV Care Guidelines
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Sub-working Group on HIV Care Monitoring and Reporting
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian National Technical Working Group on HIV Care Training for Clinicians
(Julian Elliott)
- Cambodian Treatment Access Program Steering Committee
(David Cooper)
- Central Australian Disease Control Coordinating Committee, STD/HIV Subcommittee
(John Kaldor)
- Central Sydney Area Health Service, Vietnamese Health Promotion Project Reference Group
(Lisa Maher)
- Centre for Culture and Health Advisory Committee
(Lisa Maher)
- Cochrane Collaborative Review Group on HIV infection and AIDS, Biomedical Interventions
(John Kaldor, Reviews Editor)
- Commonwealth Department of Veteran Affairs, Expert Committee to Review SAS Health Issues
(John Kaldor)
- Communicable Diseases Intelligence* Editorial Board
(John Kaldor)
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia
(John Kaldor)
- Criminal Justice* Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)
- Current HIV/AIDS Reports* Editorial Board
(David Cooper, Honorary Member)
- Department of Human Services, Victoria, Tender Evaluation Panel for 'The Development, Implementation and Evaluation of a Sentinel Surveillance System for Chlamydia, HIV and Hepatitis C in Victoria'
(John Kaldor)
- Drug and Alcohol Multicultural Education Centre, Alcohol and Other Drug Use in Six Non-English Speaking Background Communities Project Reference Group
(Lisa Maher)
- Drug and Alcohol Review* Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)
- eJournal of the International AIDS Society* Editorial Board
(John Kaldor)
- ESPRIT Toxicity Committee
(Sarah Pett)
- Faculty of Medicine Research Committee, BSc(Med) Subcommittee
(Greg Dore)
- Harm Reduction Journal* Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)
- Hepatitis C Council of NSW Medical Research Advisory Panel
(Greg Dore, John Kaldor)
- The HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT) Executive Management Committee
(Chris Duncombe)
- The HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT)
(David Cooper, Co-Director)
- Immunovirology Research Network Steering Committee
(Anthony Kelleher)
- INITIO Data Management Committee
(Dianne Carey)
- INITIO Immunology Sub Study Steering Committee
(Anthony Kelleher)
- Institute for Health Research Scientific and Program Advisory Committee
(Lisa Maher)
- International AIDS Society Governing Council, Governance Subcommittee
(John Kaldor)

International Consortium of Investigators Working on Lymphoma Epidemiologic Studies (Interlymph), Infectious Diseases Subcommittee
(Andrew Grulich, Co-Chair)

Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes Editorial Board
(David Cooper)

Journal of Contemporary Ethnography Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)

Journal of Drug Issues Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)

Journal of HIV Medicine Editorial Board
(Andrew Grulich)

Journal of HIV Therapy Editorial Board
(Don Smith)

Lotus House Management Committee
(Lisa Maher, President)

Medically Supervised Injecting Centre Evaluation Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis, HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmissible Infections Subcommittee
(Andrew Grulich)

Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis, Hepatitis C Subcommittee
(Greg Dore)

Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis, Indigenous Australians' Sexual Health Committee
(John Kaldor)

Monitoring the AIDS Pandemic Steering Committee
(John Kaldor)

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STD, Cambodia, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Technical Working Group on Sexually Transmitted Infections
(Sarah Huffam)

National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Disease Scientific Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

National Centre in HIV Social Research Scientific Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

National Donovanosis Eradication Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

National Health and Medical Research Council, Special Expert Committee on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (SECTSE), Working Group on Biostate
(John Kaldor)

National Health and Medical Research Council, Special Expert Committee on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (SECTSE), Working Group on Blood Matters
(John Kaldor)

National Health and Medical Research Council, Special Expert Committee on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (SECTSE)
(John Kaldor)

National Medicines Symposium 2004 Scientific Program Committee
(Stephen Kerr)

Non-English Speaking Background Needle and Syringe Program Advocacy Project Reference Group
(Lisa Maher)

NSW Department of Corrective Services Ethics Committee
(John Kaldor)

NSW Health Department, HIV Health Promotion Committee
(Andrew Grulich, Chair)

NSW Health Department, NSW Health Ethics Committee
(Andrew Grulich)

NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis
(Greg Dore)

Repatriation Medical Authority
(John Kaldor)

Review of Sexually Transmitted Infections and Blood Borne Virus Prevention and Management in the Northern Territory Steering Committee
(John Kaldor)

Second International Workshop on Acute HIV-1 Infection Organising Committee
(John Kaldor)

Sexual Health Editorial Board
(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

Sexual Health
(David Cooper, Joint Editor)

Sexually Transmitted Infections Editorial Board
(David Cooper)

SILCAAT Toxicity Committee
(Sarah Pett)

SMART Anal Dysplasia Substudy Team
(Fraser Drummond)

SMART Body Composition Substudy Team
(Fraser Drummond)

SMART Executive Committee
(Fraser Drummond)

SMART Neurology Substudy Team
(Fraser Drummond)

SMART Protocol Team
(Fraser Drummond)

South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service,
Hepatitis C Education and Health Care Planning
Steering Committee
(Suzanne Polis)

South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service, HIV/AIDS
and Related Diseases Advisory Committee
(Suzanne Polis)

South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service, HIV/
Hepatitis C Sexual Health Minimum Data Set
Implementation Committee
(Paddy Mallon)

South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service, Minimum
Data Set Working Group
(Paddy Mallon)

St Vincent's Hospital Campus Institutional Biosafety
Committee
(Anthony Kelleher)

St Vincent's Hospital Drug Committee
(Paddy Mallon)

St Vincent's Hospital Human Research Ethics
Committee
(Paddy Mallon)

St Vincent's Hospital Research Focus Group
(Paddy Mallon)

The 45 and Up Study, Cancer Theme Committee
(Andrew Grulich)

The Cabinet Office NSW, Monitoring Committee of
the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre
(John Kaldor)

The Thai Red Cross Society, Advisory Board on
Expansion of Voluntary Counselling and Testing in
Thailand
(Chris Duncombe)

The Thai Red Cross Society and Columbia University,
Advisory Board on the treatment of HIV infected
mothers and their families, Mother-to-Child
Transmission-Plus Program
(Chris Duncombe)

The University of Sydney, Corrections Health Service
and NSW Department of Juvenile Justice Breaking the
Juvenile Crime Cycle: Rehabilitating High Risk Young
Offenders Reference Group
(John Kaldor)

The University of Sydney, School of Health Information
Management External Advisory Committee
(Pip Marks)

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database Steering
Committee
(Julian Zhou)

UNICEF/Médecins Sans Frontières/World Health
Organization, Review of interim World Health
Organization guidance on paediatric HIV care
(Chris Duncombe)

UNSW Human Research Ethics Advisory Panel:
Medical/Community
(Greg Dore, Lisa Maher)

UNSW School of Public Health and Community
Medicine, Research Degree Committee
(Andrew Grulich, Lisa Maher)

UNSW School of Public Health and Community
Medicine, Research Development Committee
(Lisa Maher)

Vietnamese Australian Buddhist Assistance Trust
Management Committee
(Lisa Maher)

World Health Organisation-UNAIDS HIV Vaccine
Advisory Committee
(David Cooper, Chairman)

XV International AIDS Conference, Scientific Program
Committee
(David Cooper, Co-Chair)

XV International AIDS Conference, Track A
(Basic Science) Scientific Planning Committee
(Anthony Kelleher)

XV International AIDS Conference, Track A
(Basic Science)
(Anthony Kelleher, Chief Rapporteur)

XV International AIDS Conference, Track B (Clinical
Research, Treatment)
(Sarah Pett, Rapporteur)

XV International AIDS Conference, Track C
(Epidemiology and Prevention) Scientific Program
Committee
(John Kaldor)

XV International AIDS Conference, Track C
(Epidemiology and Prevention)
(John Kaldor, Chief Rapporteur)



Education and training

Students supervised or co-supervised by NCHECR personnel

Supervisor(s) in brackets

Bachelor of Medical Biotechnologies (Honours) awarded

Giulia Zanetti (University of Padua, Italy)

Studies of IL-7 and IL-7 receptor systems in vitro and ex vivo

(Anthony Kelleher)

Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) candidate

Heidi Lim

Effect of nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors on apidocyte mitochondrial function

(Paddy Mallon, Anthony Kelleher)

Doctor of Medicine awarded

Patrick Unemori (University of California, San Francisco, USA)

The metabolic effects of nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors on monocytes from HIV negative patients

(Paddy Mallon, Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper)

Doctor of Philosophy awarded

Anthony Freeman

Cellular immunology in hepatitis C

(John Kaldor)

Doctor of Philosophy candidates

Janaki Amin

Cancer and mortality following hepatitis B virus or hepatitis C virus infection

(Matthew Law, Greg Dore)

Palanee Ammaranond

Evolution of HIV in response to therapeutic and immune mediated pressures

(Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper)

Mark Boyd

Clinical trials of antiretroviral therapy in Thailand

(David Cooper)

Dianne Carey

Optimising HIV Therapies

(Sean Emery)

Oliver Distler

Molecular and cellular mechanisms for HIV protease inhibitor associated hyperlipidaemia

(David Cooper)

Adrian Dunlop

Treatment for Vietnamese heroin users with new opioid pharmacotherapies

(Lisa Maher)

Judy Edmonds

Determining the role of the glycoprotein-41 cytoplasmic tail in HIV-1 infections

(Anthony Kelleher)

Katie Edwards

Epidemiological studies of contact lens related infection

(John Kaldor)

Hien Thi Ho

Cultural influences on risk behaviors and anti-HIV and hepatitis C virus seroprevalence in ethnic Vietnamese injecting drug users in Australia

(Lisa Maher)

Jeff Jin

Epidemiology of sexually transmissible infections in gay men in Sydney

(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

Azar Kariminia

Mortality among full time prisoners in New South Wales

(Matthew Law)

Paddy Mallon

Molecular aspects of HIV-associated lipodystrophy

(Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper)

Joanne Micallef

Natural history of newly acquired hepatitis C infection

(Greg Dore, John Kaldor)

Ann Mijch (Monash University)

Measuring and managing HIV virological failure

(John Kaldor)

John Miller

Lipodystrophy in patients with HIV disease

(John Kaldor)

Fatemeh Nakhaee

Modelling survival following HIV and AIDS in Australia

(Matthew Law)

Meredith Nirui

The health and wellbeing of homeless women and their accompanying children

(Lisa Maher)

Kathy Petoumenos

The Australian HIV Observational Database

(Matthew Law, John Kaldor)

Sarah Pett

Aspects of HIV-1-treatment: An exploration of the positive and negative physiological aspects of host-directed treatments for HIV-1-infection
(Sean Emery)

Farhad Pourfazi

The influence of environmental risk factors on gastric cancer in North West of Iran – Ardabil Province
(John Kaldor)



Heidi Lim, Palanee Ammaranond

Mary Poynten

Biological and behavioural methods of prevention of HIV
(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

Karina Razali

Estimates and projections of HIV and hepatitis C virus in Australia and the Asia Pacific region
(Matthew Law, John Kaldor)

Sarah Sasson

Dysregulation of the IL-7/R system in HIV-1 infection and implications for T-cell homeostasis
(Anthony Kelleher)

Preeyaporn Srasuebkul

Modelling simplified monitoring strategies in patients with HIV receiving antiretroviral treatments
(Matthew Law)

Rosie Thein

Quality of life and hepatitis C
(Greg Dore, John Kaldor)

David van Bockel

Comparison within long term non-progressors of T-cell factors contributing to control of viral infection
(Anthony Kelleher)

John Zaunders

The effect of primary HIV-1 infection on subsets of CD4 and CD8 T-cell subsets
(David Cooper, Anthony Kelleher)

Jialun Zhou

HIV/AIDS natural history and treatment in the Asia-Pacific region: TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database
(Matthew Law, Greg Dore)

Master of Applied Epidemiology (Indigenous Health) candidate**Chris Lawrence (Australian National University)**

Communicable disease epidemiology and surveillance
(John Kaldor, Andrew Grulich)

Master of Health Science (Sexual Health) candidate**Ellie King (The University of Sydney)**

IL-7 receptor expression on CD4+ T-cells in HIV infection
(Anthony Kelleher)

Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV) treatise candidate**Nurlan Silitonga (The University of Sydney)**

Trends in the prevalence of gonorrhoea and the condom use pattern among female sex workers first attending an STD clinic in the mining town, Timika, West Papua, Indonesia 1997-2002
(John Kaldor)

Master of Public Health by research candidates**Juliet Babirye**

The role of infant feeding counselling in prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Uganda
(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

Michael Burke

Factors influencing participation in prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV programs in Tanzania, East Africa
(John Kaldor)

Adeeba Kamarazulman

Natural history of HIV/AIDS in Malaysia
(Greg Dore, John Kaldor)

Van Thi Thuy Nguyen

Viral hepatitis in rural Vietnam: prevalence of hepatitis A, B, C, D and risk factors for hepatitis B in Thabinh province
(Greg Dore, Lisa Maher)

Suzanne Polis

Vertical transmission of hepatitis C virus to infants born to mothers who are infected with hepatitis C virus
(John Kaldor)

Master of Public Health major project awarded**Robert Baldwin**

A hepatitis C survey: Mid-north coast of New South Wales
(Greg Dore)

Anna Doab

Hepatitis C treatment knowledge, attitudes and barriers among current injecting drug users
(Greg Dore)

Marianne Jauncey (The University of Sydney)

Retrospective cohort of newly acquired hepatitis C infection at Kirrketon Road Centre
(Greg Dore)

Rachel Musson

A participatory assessment of the treatment, care and support needs of People Living With HIV/AIDS in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
(Lisa Maher)

Nick Walsh

Harm reduction and HIV/AIDS in Vietnam
(Lisa Maher)

Shellee Williams

Incidence of hepatitis C in a cohort of HIV+ patients of an inner-city practice and rate of uptake of hepatitis A and B vaccination within the same cohort
(John Kaldor)

Master of Public Health major project candidate

Robert Oelrichs

Implementing a quality management system in a public health laboratory in Cambodia
(John Kaldor)

Year 5 elective term Bachelor of Medicine candidates

Jason Chan

The incidence and predictors of nevirapine association hypersensitivity in a Thai HIV infected population
(Chris Duncombe)

Zewlan Moor

The incidence and predictors of nevirapine association hypersensitivity in a Thai HIV infected population
(Chris Duncombe)

Course coordination

7th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine, Bangkok, Thailand
(Chris Duncombe)

Case Studies in Epidemiology, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich)

Epidemiology for Public Health, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

HIV/AIDS: Australian and International Responses, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Greg Dore)

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs, Cambodia, Social Health Clinic training program
(Sarah Huffam)

InForm 4.1: Train the Trainer, PhaseForward, Sydney
(Kymme Courtney-Vega)

Post Registration Nursing Course in Hepatitis C, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)

Qualitative Research Methods, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Lisa Maher)

Regional physicians HIV medicine training courses, US National Institutes of Health, Bangkok, Thailand
(Chris Duncombe)

Society and Health, Year 1 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Greg Dore)

Teaching

Accelerating support for paediatric HIV care, support and treatment in Thailand and neighboring countries within the context of the 3 x 5 Initiative, UNICEF, Bangkok, Thailand
(Chris Duncombe)

Advanced HIV Nursing Course, Albion Street Centre, Sydney
(Kate Clezy, Gillian Hales)

Advanced Therapeutics, Master of Clinical Pharmacy, The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Dianne Carey)

Epidemiology for Public Health, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

Evidence Based Care for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Technical forum on home based care, National AIDS Programme, Yangon, Myanmar
(Chris Duncombe)

Global Perspectives on HIV/AIDS, Master of International Public Health, The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Sean Emery)

HIV/AIDS: Australian and International Responses, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Sean Emery, Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor, Anthony Kelleher)

HIV Education and Training Course, Albion Street Centre, Sydney
(Garrett Prestage)

HIV Medicine Interactive Session (St Vincent's Hospital), Year 6 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(David Cooper)

Immunology 1, Bachelor of Science, UNSW, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)

Immunology and Infectious Diseases Unit Journal Club, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
(David Cooper)

- Immunology of HIV Infection/HIV, Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)
- InForm 4.1: Train the Trainer, PhaseForward, Sydney
(Kymme Courtney-Vega)
- In-Service Education Program, Immunology B Ambulatory Care, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Suzanne Polis)
- International Health, Year 4 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich)
- Introduction to ABC Viral Hepatitis/Coinfection, Albion Street Centre, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)
- Introduction to Hepatitis C Virus, Albion Street Centre, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)
- Introduction to Hepatitis C Virus, College of Nursing, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)
- Introductory Program to HIV and Viral Hepatitis, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
(Greg Dore)
- Metabolic Complications, from Laboratory to Patient: Advanced Course in Antiretroviral Therapy, Stanford University, San Francisco, USA
(David Cooper)
- Mother-to-child HIV transmission in resource-poor settings, Master of International Public Health, The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Greg Dore)
- National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs, Cambodia, Social Health Clinic Training Program
(Sarah Huffam)
- Overview of Hepatitis C for Clinical Psychologists, Albion Street Centre, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)
- Overview of Hepatitis C for Dieticians, Albion Street Centre, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)
- Pharmacology, Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Dianne Carey)
- Population Health and Community Medicine, Year 4 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Lisa Maher)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Epidemiology and Evidence Based Practise in Infection Control, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(John Kaldor)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Global and National Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Hepatitis C, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Suzanne Polis)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Infection Control, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital
(Dianne Carey, Greg Dore)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Sexual Health and Venereology, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Janaki Amin, Dianne Carey, Greg Dore)
- Public Health Aspects of HIV/AIDS, Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich)
- Public Health Aspects of HIV/AIDS, Master of Public Health, The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Greg Dore)
- Public Health Aspects of STDs, Master of Public Health, The University of Sydney, Sydney
(John Kaldor)
- Regional Meeting on Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission, UNICEF, Bangkok, Thailand
(Chris Duncombe)
- Research Skills for Public Health, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Ann McDonald)
- Researching Marginalised Groups, General Studies, UNSW, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage)
- Sexual Health Counselling Course, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich)
- Short Course in Hepatitis C Pre-Test Counselling for Indigenous Health Care Workers and GPs, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)
- Short Course in HIV and Hepatitis C Virus, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Paddy Mallon)
- Short Course in HIV Medicine, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Dianne Carey, Sean Emery, Andrew Grulich)
- Short Course in HIV Medicine for Pharmaceutical Industry, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney.
(Sean Emery)

Statistics for Public Health, Master of Public Health,
UNSW, Sydney
(Janaki Amin, Kathy Petoumenos)

Women and Hepatitis C Virus, Albion Street Centre,
Sydney
(Suzanne Polis)

Tutoring

Clinical examination, Royal Australasian College of
Physicians, Sydney
(Paddy Mallon)

Clinical Medicine (St Vincent's Hospital), Year 2
Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Alan Winston)

Clinical Medicine (St Vincent's Hospital), Year 3
Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Fraser Drummond, Tim Ramacciotti)

Clinical Medicine (St Vincent's Hospital), Year 4
Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher, Gail Matthews)

Clinical Skills, Year 1 Medical Students, UNSW, Sydney
(Paddy Mallon)

Clinical Skills, Year 2 Medical Students, UNSW, Sydney
(Paddy Mallon)

Epidemiology for Public Health, Master of Public
Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Janaki Amin, Kathy Petoumenos)

Foundations, Year 1 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Greg Dore)

Phase 1 Clinical Communication Skills, Year 1
Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Kate Clezy)

Society and Health, Year 1 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Sarah Pett)

Statistics for Public Health, Master of Public Health,
UNSW, Sydney
(Kathy Petoumenos)



Funding for 2004

All amounts listed are in Australian dollars.

Names of organisations are as specified at the time the funding agreement commenced.

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing core grant

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing provided an allocation in 2004 to fund the activities and administration of NCHECR, including a clinical trials budget.

Core allocation	3,609,952
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Other Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing grants

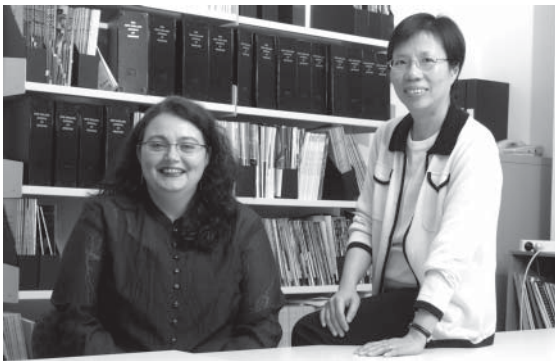
Hepatitis C surveillance and research activities	252,625
Other hepatitis C projects	220,000
Survey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men who have sex with men in Queensland	59,516

Other grants and contracts from public sources

American Foundation for AIDS Research: TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database	1,751
AusAID: Cambodia HIV/AIDS antiretroviral therapy project	90,548
European Medicines Evaluation Agency: Data Collection on Adverse Events of Anti-HIV Drugs Study	87,389
Family Health International: Tenofovir prevention study	769,308
Japan Health Science Foundation: Clinical trial for developing immune therapy	72,115
NHMRC	
Causes of mortality following imprisonment in NSW	68,500
Public Health (Australia) Fellowship for Dr Claire Vajdic	45,325
NHMRC Program Grant Subcontract	
University of Melbourne: HIV infection – immunology and vaccine design	344,279
NSW Health Department	
Expert services in HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible diseases	25,000
Research and development infrastructure grant program	581,056
Surveillance of hepatitis B and C, HIV and related risk behaviour among prison receptions in NSW	70,021
Validation of saliva hepatitis C antibody testing	127,455
The Cancer Council of NSW: Cancer in dialysis patients and kidney transplant recipients	72,400
UK Medical Research Council: INITIO Study	111,860
University of Minnesota: SILCAAT Study	213,167
US National Institutes of Health	
HIV Vaccine Design and Development Team contract	3,222,183
Longitudinal cohort of newly acquired hepatitis C infection	386,238
Protease Inhibitor Related Atherosclerosis in HIV	271,672
US National Institutes of Health Subcontracts	
Johns Hopkins University: Liver disease and HIV-hepatitis B coinfection in the HAART era	85,790
Massachusetts General Hospital : AIEDRP/PHAEDRA Studies	919,723
University of Minnesota: ESPRIT Study	1,244,629
Social and Scientific Systems: SMART Study	1,265,840

Pharmaceutical industry funding

Boehringer-Ingelheim Pty Ltd	43,825
Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals (Australia)	1,265,613
Chiron Corporation	801
CSL Research and Development	9,527
Gilead Sciences Inc	160,103
Janseen-Cilag Pty Ltd	76,293
Johnson & Johnson Research Pty Ltd	36,344
Roche Pharmaceutical (Switzerland)	956,416
Roche Products Pty Ltd (Australia)	1,064,794
Virax Immunotherapeutic Pty Ltd	68,200



Bronwen Turner, Annie Tung



Disclosure of financial and other relationships with industry

As noted under *Funding for 2004* (see page 63), NCHCR receives financial support for a number of its projects from pharmaceutical companies. In relation to the companies indicated, staff members listed below either served on advisory boards; received individual travel grants, consultancy payments or honoraria; or were the first degree relative of an employee during 2004.

No staff member owned shares, was a personal recipient of a tied or untied grant or had ownership in intellectual property related to any company that funded NCHCR's research program during 2004.

Dianne Carey

GlaxoSmithKline

David Cooper

Abbott

Avexa

Boehringer-Ingelheim

Bristol-Myers Squibb

Roche

Gilead

GlaxoSmithKline

Johnson & Johnson

Merck

Pfizer

Schering-Plough

Virax

Greg Dore

Gilead

Roche

Chris Duncombe

Johnson & Johnson

Organon

Roche

Sean Emery

Bristol-Myers Squibb

Roche

Anthony Kelleher

Merck

Andrew Grulich

GlaxoSmithKline

Gillian Hales

Roche

Matthew Law

GlaxoSmithKline

Johnson & Johnson

Paddy Mallon

Abbott

Bristol-Myers Squibb

Gilead

GlaxoSmithKline

Merck

Roche

Sarah Pett

GlaxoSmithKline

Merck

Don Smith

Abbott

Boehringer Ingelheim

Bristol-Myers Squibb

Gilead

GlaxoSmithKline

Merck

Novartis

Roche

Alan Winston

Gilead



Presentations at conferences and meetings

Conference presentations

Amin J, O'Connell D, Bartlett M, Tracey E, Kaldor JM, Law MG, Dore GJ. Hepatitis B and C and liver cancer in New South Wales 1990–2002: A linkage study. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Ammaranond P, Leas L, Cunningham P, Suzuki K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. An update on the prevalence of transmitted drug resistance mutations in inner Sydney: No increase in protease resistance mutations and a decrease in RT resistance mutations during period 2002–2003. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Carey C, Pett SL, Bebchuk J, Courtney-Rodgers D, Cordwell B, French M, Finlayson R, Emery SE, Cooper DA for the ESPRIT Study Group. ESPRIT (Evaluation of Subcutaneous Proleukin® in a Randomised International Trial): CD4+ T-cell responses to subcutaneous recombinant interleukin-2. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Cooper DA, Workman C, Puls RL, Bloch M, Baker D, Bodsworth N, Anderson J, Crowe S, French M, Hoy J, Kelleher AD, Aichelberg A, Ward L, Law MG, Emery SE. Randomised, placebo-controlled phase 1/2a evaluation of the safety, biological activity and antiretroviral properties of an avipox virus vaccine expressing HIV gag-pol and interferon- γ in HIV-1 infected subjects. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.

Cooper DA. Acute HIV infection. *44th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*. Washington, USA.

Cooper DA. HIV-related factors but not HIV-related factors at baseline predict the response to treatment with peginterferon alfa-2a (40KD) (Pegasys) plus ribavirin (Copegus) in patients with hepatitis C virus/HIV co-infection: Predictor analysis from the APRICOT Study. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Cooper DA. Immune reconstitution syndrome in patients on HAART. *7th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Cooper DA. Immune therapeutics in the HAART era: How should they be tested in clinical trials. *Immunomodulating Drugs for the Treatment of HIV/AIDS*. Lake Garda, Italy.

Cooper DA. Second-line and salvage regimens: How to sequence antiretroviral therapy. *7th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Cooper DA. Therapeutic vaccination in HIV. *10th Anniversary British HIV Association (BHIVA) Autumn Conference and Joint BHIVA/British Association for Sexual Health and HIV Ordinary General Meeting*. London, UK.

Cooper DA. Therapeutic vaccination in primary HIV infection. *European Primary HIV Infection Symposium*. Berlin, Germany.

Cordwell B, Pett SL, Emery SE, Collins G, Carey C, Courtney-Rodgers D, Cooper DA on behalf of the SILCAAT Study Group. SILCAAT: CD4+ T-cell responses to subcutaneous recombinant interleukin-2 after one year. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Day C, Degenhardt L, Gilmour S, Hall W. The impact of the heroin shortage on injecting drug use and hepatitis C infections in New South Wales. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Day C, Degenhardt L. Epidemiology of injecting drug use in Australia. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Day C, Doab A, Dore GJ, Matthews GV, Treloar C. Hepatitis C treatment for injecting drug users: Knowledge, barriers, attitudes and advances. *Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs 2004 Conference*. Fremantle, WA.

Day C. Research at the margins: Injecting drug users. *Australasian Health & Research Data Managers Association 14th Annual Scientific Meeting*. Sydney.

Doab A, Dore GJ, Treloar C. Hepatitis C treatment attitudes and barriers to treatment among active injecting drug users. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Dore GJ. Epidemiology and natural history of HIV/viral hepatitis coinfection. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Dore GJ. Epidemiology of hepatitis C. *The Australian Health and Medical Research Congress*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Hepatitis C – incidence and determinants. *15th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm*. Melbourne.

Dore GJ. HIV and hepatitis coinfection. *7th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Dore GJ. Potential for transmission of blood-borne viruses in non-medical commercial settings. *Eleventh National Symposium on Hepatitis B and C*. Melbourne.

Dore GJ. Preventing transmission of hepatitis C: How can we make progress – the Australian view. *Eleventh National Symposium on Hepatitis B and C*. Melbourne.

- Dore GJ. Public health challenges for hepatitis C – Australia and globally. *18th World Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education*. Melbourne.
- Drummond F, Neuhaus J, Hoy J on behalf of the SMART Protocol Team and the SMART Study Investigators. The SMART (Strategies for Management of Anti-Retroviral Therapy) Study – adherence to strategy. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Duncombe C, Law WP, Mahanontharit A, Boyd MA, Ruxrungtham K, Lange JM, Phanuphak P, Cooper DA, Dore GJ. Impact of viral hepatitis co-infection on response to antiretroviral therapy and HIV disease progression in the HIV-NAT cohort. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Duncombe C, Phanuphak P, Chuenyam T, Castelo A, Batterham M, Rekers H, Geurts P, Gold J. The effects of nandrolone decanoate on weight loss in male subjects with HIV infection. *7th International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection*. Glasgow, UK.
- Grulich AE, Hughes AM, Milliken S, Kricker A, Vajdic CM, Fritschi L, Kaldor JM, Turner J, Benke G, Armstrong BK. Preliminary results of the NSW study of risk factors for non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL). *Annual Scientific meeting of the Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand*. Melbourne.
- Grulich AE, Jin FY, Prestage GP, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Pell C, Donovan B, Kaldor JM on behalf of the Australia-Thai HIV Vaccine Consortium. Resurgent syphilis in gay men: Where to from here? *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Grulich AE. Biological methods of prevention. *HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & Related Diseases (HHARD) Social Research Conference*. Sydney.
- Grulich AE. HIV, STIs and the epidemiological synergy. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations/National Association of People Living With HIV/AIDS HIV Educators' Conference*. Sydney.
- Grulich AE. Update on the HIV upturn. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations/National Association of People Living With HIV/AIDS HIV Educators' Conference*. Sydney.
- Grulich AE. What is the role of exposure prophylaxis in HIV prevention? *The 18th World Conference on Health Promotion & Health Education*. Melbourne.
- Ho TH, Maher L, Crofts N. Blood beliefs and overdose management practices of Vietnamese-Australian injecting drug users. *Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Conference*. Perth.
- Ip S, Munier MLC, Zaunders J, Merlin K, McGinley C, Piperias M, Ammaranond P, Kelleher AD. Extracellular and intracellular marker comparison of fresh whole blood, fresh peripheral blood mononuclear cells versus cryopreserved PBMCs. *27th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Flow Cytometry Group Meeting*. Adelaide.
- Jin FY, Guerin J, Prestage GP, Ellard J, Kippax S, Grulich AE and the PHAEDRA Study Group. Behavioural risk factors for HIV seroconversion in homosexual men. *HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & Related Diseases (HHARD) Social Research Conference*. Sydney.
- Jin FY, Prestage GP, Pell C, Donovan B, Van de Ven P, Kippax S, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ, Grulich AE. Prevalence and risk factors for hepatitis C in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & Related Diseases (HHARD) Social Research Conference*. Sydney.
- Jin FY, Prestage GP, Pell C, Donovan B, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Sullivan M, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ, Grulich AE. Prevalence and risk factors for hepatitis C in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Jin FY, Prestage GP, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Pell C, Donovan B, Cunningham P, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE on behalf of the Australia-Thai HIV Vaccine Consortium. Prevalence and risk factors for gonorrhoea and chlamydia in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Kaldor JM. Epidemiology of viral hepatitis. *10th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry*. Perth.
- Kaldor JM. Ethical issues in trials of HIV prevention. *7th World Congress of Bioethics*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM. HIV prevention using antiretroviral agents: Current status of clinical research. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Kaldor JM. Summary for Track C, AIDS 2004. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Kelleher AD. Results of a phase 1 safety and immunogenicity study of a candidate HIV-1 vaccine. *Australian Society for Microbiology 2004 Annual Scientific Meeting*. Sydney.
- Kerr SJ, Duncombe C, Chuenyam T, Ruxrungtham K, Lange JM, Cooper DA, Phanuphak P. HIV-NAT: Promoting clinical research and rational use of antiretroviral agents in Thailand. *Second International Conference on Improving Use of Medicines*. Chiang Mai, Thailand.

- Kumarasamy N, Zhou J on behalf of the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. Rates of short term clinical progression in the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Kumarasamy N, Zhou J on behalf of the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. The TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database: Baseline data and response to triple combination antiretroviral treatment from retrospective data. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Law MG, Friis-Moller N, Weber R, D'Arminio Monforte A, El-Sadr W, Reiss P, Dabis F, Morfeldt L, De Wit S, Pradier C, Calvo G, Kirk O, Sabin C, Phillips AN, Lundgren JD. Observed and predicted rates of myocardial infarction in the DAD Study. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Law MG, Pett SL, Arduino R, Lopez JC, Knytz B, Carlos Pereira, Jr L, Pollack S, Reiss P, Tambussi G, Fosdick L, Bebkuk J, Carey C, Courtney-Rodgers D, Cordwell B, Emery SE, Cooper DA on behalf of the ESPRIT Study Group. Modelling predicted event rates using baseline data in ESPRIT (the evaluation of subcutaneous Proleukin interleukin-2 trial). *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Law MG. Mathematical models of HIV incidence among gay men in Australia. *The Australian Society for Microbiology 2004 Annual Scientific Meeting*. Sydney.
- Law MG. Trends in long-term sequelae of HIV infection in Australia, 2005-2020. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Madeddu D, Prestage GP, Grierson J, Smith A, Richters J, Allan B, Grulich AE. The geography of the gay community 'ghetto' in Sydney. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Maher L, Chant K, Jalaludin B, Jayasuriya R, Sladden T, Kaldor JM, Sargent P. Hepatitis C virus incidence and risk behaviours in a multi-site prospective cohort study of injecting drug users. *15th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm*. Melbourne.
- Maher L, Chant K, Jalaludin B, Jayasuriya R, Sladden T, Kaldor JM, Sargent P. Hepatitis C virus incidence and risk behaviours in a multi-site prospective cohort study of injecting drug users. *Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Conference*. Perth.
- Maher L, Coupland H, Sargent P. Risky behaviours or risky environments? Blood-borne epidemics among injecting drug users. *15th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm*. Melbourne.
- Maher L, Ho HT, Crofts N. Culture and harm reduction: Blood beliefs and overdose management practices of ethnic Vietnamese injecting drug users in Sydney, Australia. *16th International Congress on Addiction: Ethnicity and Addiction*. Vienna, Austria.
- Maher L, Thein HH, Dore GJ, Kaldor JM. Antibody hepatitis C prevalence and risk behaviours among vulnerable populations attending needle and syringe programs in Australia. *Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Conference*. Perth.
- Mallon PWG, Unemori P, Bowen M, Miller J, Winterbotham M, Kelleher AD, Williams K, Cooper DA, Carr A. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors decrease mitochondrial and PPAR γ gene expression in adipose tissue after only 2 weeks in HIV-uninfected healthy adults. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- Mallon PWG, Unemori P, Sedwell R, Morey A, Rafferty M, Williams K, Chisholm D, Samaras K, Emery SE, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A for the SAMA investigators. *In vivo*, nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors alter expression of both mitochondrial and lipid metabolism genes independent to HIV infection. *6th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV*. Washington DC, USA.
- Mallon PWG, Unemori P, Sedwell R, Williams K, Merlin K, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors decrease monocyte mitochondrial gene transcription, an effect that persists 6 weeks after discontinuation of the drugs. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Marks P, Dhillon H, Stockler M, Nowak A. Developing an oncology clinical research workforce survey. *Australasian Health & Research Data Managers Association 14th Annual Scientific Meeting*. Sydney.
- Marks P, Dhillon H, Stockler M, Nowak A. Oncology clinical research workforce survey 2004 – Professional Certification – Do we need it? *Clinical Oncological Society of Australia 31st Annual Scientific Meeting*. Canberra.
- Matthews GV, Ayres A, Bartholomeusz A, Bowden S, Cooper DA, Locarnini S, Dore GJ. Virological outcomes after tenofovir administration for HIV/hepatitis B coinfection. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Matthews GV, Potgeiter Z, McAllister J, Dore GJ. Improvement in treatment outcomes amongst HIV/hepatitis C coinfecting individuals treated within a tertiary hospital clinic since 2000. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- McDonald AM, Cunningham P, Kelleher AD, Kaldor JM. Evaluation of a detuned antibody testing strategy for detecting incident HIV infection. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

McDonald AM, Kaldor JM for the National HIV Surveillance Committee. Trends in newly acquired and newly diagnosed HIV infection in Australia, 1994-2003. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Micallef JM, MacDonald V, Amin J, Jauncey M, Rawlinson W, van Beek I, Kaldor JM, White PA, Dore GJ. Comparison of incidence of initial hepatitis C virus infection and reinfection: No evidence for protective immunity. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Micallef JM. Hepatitis C reinfection in injecting drug user cohorts. *The Australian Health and Medical Research Congress*. Sydney.

Middleton MG, Yohannes K, Dore GJ. Trends in hepatitis C infection in Australia, 1999-2003. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Munier MLC, van Bockel D, Zaunders J, Ip S, Satchell CS, Merlin K, McGinley C, Piperias M, Ammaranond P, Pett SL, Kelleher AD. Analysis of peripheral and lymph node effector lymphocyte activity against mycobacterium antigens in HIV-infected individuals with persistent immune reconstitution disease. *27th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Flow Cytometry Group Meeting*. Adelaide.

Polis S. Reducing treatment related morbidity. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Poynten IM, Smith DE, Grulich AE. Final results from the Australian non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (NPEP) observational study. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Prestage GP, Fogarty A, Mao L, Grulich AE, Van de Ven P, Kippax S, P. Rawstone, Jin FY, Kaldor JM. How has the sexual behaviour of gay men changed since the onset of AIDS: 1986-2003? *ASSERT National Sexology Conference*. Sydney.

Prestage GP, Grulich AE, McGuigan D, Mao L, Van de Ven P, Kippax S, Kaldor JM. Making, keeping and breaking agreements with regular partners among gay men: The Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Prestage GP, Grulich AE, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Kaldor JM. Degree of acquaintance between casual partners prior to unprotected anal intercourse in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & Related Diseases (HHARD) Social Research Conference*. Sydney.

Prestage GP, Hurley M, Mao L. Gay community: Subcultures, risk and 'comfortableness'. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Prestage GP, Mao L, Van de Ven P, Kippax S, Grulich AE, Kaldor JM. Factors associated with sexual problems among HIV-negative gay men. *HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & Related Diseases (HHARD) Social Research Conference*. Sydney.

Prestage GP, Mao L, Van de Ven P, Kippax S, Grulich AE, Kaldor JM. Measuring gay community attachment and gay subcultures. *HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & Related Diseases (HHARD) Social Research Conference*. Sydney.

Prestage GP, Van de Ven P, Mao L. Australian gay men of Asian background: Community involvement and support. *The Inaugural Australian Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex & Queer Multicultural Conference*. Melbourne.



Charles Tran

Ramacciotti T, Cunningham P, Grey P, Zaunders J, Law MG, Kelleher AD, Johnston M, Spotts G, Cooper DA, Kaldor JM, Smith DE. A comparison of the Western blot versus detuned ELISA methods for detection of incident HIV infection. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Sasson S, Zanetti G, King EM, Zaunders J, Merlin K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. Progressive dysregulation of the IL-7/R system in HIV-1 infection. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Thein HH, Butler T, Pan Y, Rawlinson W, Levy M, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ. Health-related quality of life in a prisoner population with and without chronic hepatitis C in NSW, Australia. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Thein HH, Maher L, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ on behalf of the Collaboration of Australian Needle and Syringe Programs. Hepatitis C prevalence and risk behaviours among high risk populations attending needle and syringe programs in Australia. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Thein HH, Maher L, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ on behalf of the Collaboration of Australian Needle and Syringe Programs. Hepatitis C prevalence and risk behaviours among young injecting drug users. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Thein HH, McAllister J, Dolan G, Koorey D, Matthews G, Kaldor JM, Brew BJ, Maruff P, Dore GJ. The impact of interferon-based therapy on neurocognitive function and health-related quality of life in chronic hepatitis C. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.

Vajdic CM, Grulich AE, Kaldor JM, Hughes AM, Krickler A, Fritschi L, Turner J, Milliken S, Benke G, Armstrong BK. Immune and infectious risk factors for non-Hodgkin lymphoma in Australia. *Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association*. Adelaide.

van Bockel D, Munier MLC, Zaunders J, Ip S, Satchell CS, Merlin K, McGinley C, Piperias M, Ammaranond P, Pett SL, Kelleher AD. Analysis of peripheral and lymph node effector lymphocyte activity against mycobacterium antigens in HIV-infected individuals with unresolved non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) disease. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.

Winston A, Hales G, Amin J, van Shiack E, Bachelier L, Winters B, Cooper DA, Emery SE. The normalised inhibitory quotient of boosted protease inhibitors is predictive of viral load response over 48 weeks in a cohort of highly treatment experienced HIV-1 infected individuals. *7th International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection*. Glasgow, UK.

Other presentations

Ammaranond P. An update on the prevalence of transmitted drug resistance in inner Sydney 2002-2003. *UNSW Student Research Seminar*. Sydney.

Ammaranond P. Phenotypic characteristics of specific CD8+ T-cells in long-term non-progressors. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.

Carey DL. Nevirapine and pregnancy. *Women's Only Workshop*. Sydney.

Courtney-Rodgers D, Cordwell B. ESPRIT and SILCAAT Studies: Federal Wide Assurance and annual review update. *Sydney Regional Coordinating Centre Annual Meeting for ESPRIT and SILCAAT*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Courtney-Rodgers D. Tracking and closing end-points in ESPRIT and SILCAAT. *Sydney Regional Coordinating Centre Annual Meeting for ESPRIT and SILCAAT*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Day C, Degenhardt L, Gilmour S, Hall W. The impact of heroin shortage on injecting drug use and related harms in New South Wales. *Heplink Meeting*. Sydney.

Doab A, Dore GJ, Treloar C. Hepatitis C treatment attitudes and barriers to treatment among active injecting drug users. *Kirketon Road Centre*. Sydney.

Doab A, Dore GJ, Treloar C. Hepatitis C treatment attitudes and barriers to treatment among active injecting drug users. *South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service, Hepatitis C Interagency Meeting*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. 4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference feedback. *Heplink Meeting*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Acute hepatitis C infection. *St Vincent's Hospital Immunology B Ambulatory Care Education Series*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Advanced liver disease in HIV. *St Vincent's Hospital HIV Journal Club*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Epidemiology and clinical management of HIV/hepatitis C coinfection. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations Annual General Meeting*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Epidemiology and clinical management of HIV/hepatitis C coinfection. *South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service Hepatitis C Interagency Meeting*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Expanding access to hepatitis C treatment for current injecting drug users. *Burnet Institute Seminars*. Melbourne.

Dore GJ. Hepatitis C: Risk and advances in therapy. *Prince of Wales Hospital South Eastern Area Laboratory Services Meeting*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. HIV and viral hepatitis coinfection. *Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Medical Officers Association 70th Annual Reunion Programme*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. HIV and viral hepatitis coinfection. *Viruses in July Workshop*. Katoomba, NSW.

Dore GJ. Improving access to hepatitis treatment. *Hepatitis C Council of NSW Annual General Meeting*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Public health challenges in hepatitis C. *Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand Viral Hepatitis Workshop 2004*. Whakatane, New Zealand.

Drummond F. Enrolment issues in the SMART study. *European SMART Investigator's Meeting*. Glasgow, UK.

Drummond F. NCHECR Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program study outcomes and ongoing trials. *The NCHECR Trial Network Site Coordinators Meeting*. Canberra.

Drummond F. Predictors of low high-density lipoprotein cholesterol in HIV-positive patients: Effect of class of antiretroviral therapy and traditional risk factors. *SMART International Steering Committee*. San Francisco, USA.

Elliott JE. Diflucan Partnership Program – Experience in Cambodia. *Diflucan Partnership Program Launch*. Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Grulich AE, Vajdic CM. InterLymph pooled analysis of history of immunological conditions and early life exposures: Goals and hypotheses. *InterLymph Immunology Subgroup Meeting*. Los Angeles, USA.

Grulich AE, Vajdic CM. The hygiene hypothesis: How does it relate to non-Hodgkin lymphoma? *InterLymph Immunology Subgroup Meeting*. Los Angeles, USA.

- Grulich AE, Vajdic CM, Kaldor JM, Hughes AM, Krickler A, Fritschl L, Turner JJ, Milliken S, Benke G, Armstrong BK. Immune risk factors for non-Hodgkin lymphoma in Australia. *InterLymph Immunology Subgroup Meeting*. Los Angeles, USA.
- Grulich AE. Epidemiology of HIV major gay communities. *Pre-conference satellite for XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Grulich AE. Making sense of rising infection rates. *Relationships Australia*. Adelaide.
- Grulich AE. Risk factors for HIV transmission. *GlaxoSmithKline Workshop on HIV/Herpes Simplex Virus 2 Transmission*. Sydney.
- Grulich AE. Sexually transmissible infections in HIV-negative homosexual men. *St George Hospital, Infectious Diseases Unit*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM. Access to antiretroviral therapy in developing countries of the Asia-Pacific region. *Bristol-Myers Squibb Policy Seminar: The Balancing Act – Medicines and Healthcare into the 21st Century*. Melbourne.
- Kaldor JM. Approval and consent in HIV research. *UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine and National Centre in HIV Social Research World AIDS Day Seminar: HIV and Human Rights*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM. Biomedical approaches to HIV prevention. *Indonesia HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project (IHPCP) Technical Advisory Team Meeting*. Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Kaldor JM. HIV surveillance is a key to epidemic control. *National Consensus Workshop*. Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.
- Kaldor JM. International research activities at NCHECR. *Meeting with AusAID*. Canberra.
- Kaldor JM. Investigating the prevention of HIV infection through the use of oral tenofovir. *Thailand Ministry of Public Health/US Centers for Disease Control Collaboration*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Kaldor JM. Investigating the prevention of HIV infection through the use of oral tenofovir. *The HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT)*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Kaldor JM. NCHECR overview of history and role. *Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Seminar Series*. Canberra.
- Kaldor JM. NCHECR role and activities: An overview. *Scarlet Alliance National Forum*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM. Partnerships in improving access to HIV treatment in Cambodia. *National Centre for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and Sexually Transmitted Infections, HIV/AIDS Social Health Clinic Launch*. Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
- Kaldor JM. PNG – Prevalence estimation simple methods. *National Consensus Workshop*. Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.
- Kaldor JM. Recent developments at NCHECR. *Meeting with Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing*. Canberra.
- Kaldor JM. Recent developments in surveillance for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and STIs in Australia. *Intergovernmental Committee on AIDS, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases Face-to-Face Meeting*. Adelaide.
- Kaldor JM. Summary of Disease Staging Session. *Second International Workshop on Acute HIV-1 Infection*. Washington, USA.
- Kelleher AD. Clinical utility of T-cell function assays. *HIV Immunology & Infectious Diseases Journal Club*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD. HIV immunity. *Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology & HIV Virology Interest Group Inaugural Workshop*. Barossa Valley, SA.
- Kelleher AD. HIV immunology and current status of HIV vaccine development. *Merck Australia Vaccine Development Team*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD. Opening address. *Immunovirology Research Network Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cell Workshop*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD. Preliminary safety and immunogenicity of a B-subtype DNA prime/recombinant fowlpox virus boost candidate prophylactic HIV vaccine. *HIV Vaccine Trials Network Full Group Meeting*. Seattle, USA.
- Kelleher AD. Safety and preliminary immunogenicity of a B-subtype DNA prime/recombinant fowlpox virus boost prophylactic HIV vaccine candidate: Results of a phase I/IIA trial. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD. Safety and preliminary immunogenicity of a B-subtype DNA prime/recombinant fowlpox virus boost prophylactic HIV vaccine candidate: Results of a phase I/IIA trial. *HIV Vaccine Design and Development Team Prophylactic Vaccine Trial Participants*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD. Silencing HIV-1 gene expression through double-stranded RNA targeted to the NK-kB binding site. *Academic Medical Centre*. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Kelleher AD. Transmission of HIV Drug Resistance. *HIV Immunology & Infectious Diseases Journal Club*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD. Virax – upcoming trial. *NHMRC Program Grant Annual Meeting*. Canberra.
- Kelleher AD. Virology and immunology of a unique long-term non-progressor. *St Vincent's Hospital Grand Rounds*. Sydney.

- Law MG on behalf of the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. TAHOD Study progress update October 2004. *TREAT ASIA Network Meeting*. Kun Ming, China.
- Maher L. Combining research and outreach: The Indo-Chinese Outreach Network. *NSW Users and AIDS Association Annual General Meeting*. Sydney.
- Maher L. Coming of age in Cabramatta. *Heplink Meeting*. Sydney.
- Maher L. Research, reciprocity and risk. *National Centre in HIV Social Research Workshop: Research with injectors: What are the Issues?* Sydney.
- Maher L. The role of unsterile injection and transfusion in the emergence of the AIDS epidemic in Africa. *The University of Sydney Seminar Series*. Sydney.
- Mallon PWG. Clinical and molecular aspects of HIV-associated lipodystrophy. *Queens University, Department of Immunology*. Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- Mallon PWG. Clinical and molecular aspects of HIV-associated lipodystrophy. *University of California, San Francisco*. San Francisco, USA.
- Mallon PWG. Lipodystrophy and other toxicities of antiretroviral therapy. *Queen Elizabeth Hospital*. Hong Kong.
- Mallon PWG. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) decrease mitochondrial and PPAR γ gene expression in adipocytes after only two weeks in HIV-uninfected healthy adults. *St Vincent's Hospital Pharmacology Journal Club*. Sydney.
- Mallon PWG. PACIFIC Fat Biopsy Substudy. *PACIFIC Investigators' Meeting*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Mallon PWG. Pharmacology and resistance to antiretroviral drugs. *Roche Symposium*. Ballina, NSW.
- Mallon PWG. Summary from the 12th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections. *HIV Immunology & Infectious Diseases Journal Club*. Sydney.
- Mallon PWG. The role of mitochondria in lipid metabolism – insights from lipodystrophy research. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.
- McDonald AM for the National HIV Surveillance Committee. National surveillance for HIV/AIDS and related diseases - role of the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research. *Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Seminar Series*. Canberra.
- McDonald AM for the National HIV Surveillance Committee. National surveillance for HIV infection and AIDS in Australia. *Sacred Heart Hospice HIV Study Day*. Sydney.
- McDonald AM for the National HIV Surveillance Committee. Patterns of HIV transmission in Australia. *AIDS Council of New South Wales*. Sydney.
- McDonald AM. Country update on HIV/AIDS surveillance in Australia. *Annecy Group*. Rome, Italy.
- McDonald AM. Monitoring HIV transmission in Australia. *Annecy Group*. Rome, Italy.
- McDonald AM. Perinatal exposure to HIV in Australia, 1994-2003. *Ministerial Advisory Committee on HIV and Sexually Transmissible Infections*. Sydney.
- McDonald AM. Perinatal exposure to HIV in Australia, 1994-2003. *NSW Advisory Committee on Paediatric Services for HIV, Hepatitis and Related Disorders*. Sydney.
- McDonald AM. Sentinel HIV surveillance in New South Wales. *NSW Health Department HIV Epidemiology and Programming Forum*. Sydney.
- Micallef JM, MacDonald V, Amin J, Jauncey M, Rawlinson W, van Beek I, Kaldor JM, White PA, Dore GJ. Comparison of incidence of initial hepatitis C virus infection and reinfection: No evidence for protective immunity. *Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology & HIV Virology Interest Group Inaugural Workshop*. Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Munier MLC. A flow cytometric based assay for the study of primed cells - "the priming assay". *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.
- Munier MLC. A flow cytometric based assay for the study of primed cells - "the priming assay". *NHMRC Program Grant Annual Meeting*. Canberra.
- Pett SL. ESPRIT and SILCAAT endpoint update. *Sydney Regional Coordinating Centre ESPRIT/SILCAAT Annual Meeting*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Pett SL. Overview of performance on ESPRIT and SILCAAT: Australia National Trial Coordinating Centre. *ESPRIT/SILCAAT Australian Investigators' Meeting*. Canberra.
- Pett SL. SILCAAT global challenges. *Sydney Regional Coordinating Centre ESPRIT/SILCAAT Annual Meeting*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Pett SL. Toxicity concept. *ESPRIT/SILCAAT Australian Investigators' Meeting*. Canberra.
- Pett SL. Toxicity concept. *Sydney Regional Coordinating Centre ESPRIT/SILCAAT Annual Meeting*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Phipps S. Baseline, screening and randomisation procedures, case report form processing and data flow and electrocardiogram and bioelectrical impedance analysis training. *SMART Study Investigators' Meeting*. Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Phipps S. Global and international enrolment in the SMART study. *SMART Study Investigators' Meeting*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP. Adelaide Gay Community Periodic Survey: Findings and implications. *AIDS Council of South Australia Community Forum*. Adelaide.

Prestage GP. Canberra Gay Community Periodic Survey: Findings and implications. *AIDS Action Committee of the Australian Capital Territory Community Forum*. Canberra.

Prestage GP. Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey: Findings and implications. *Victorian AIDS Council Community Forum*. Melbourne.

Prestage GP. Queensland Gay Community Periodic Survey: Findings and implications. *Queensland AIDS Council Community Forum*. Brisbane.

Prestage GP. Recreational drug use among gay men. *AIDS Council of New South Wales Non-Government Organisation Forum*. Sydney.

Prestage GP. Recreational drug use among gay men. *People Living with HIV/AIDS New South Wales Community Forum*. North Sydney.

Prestage GP. Recreational drug use among gay men. *People Living with HIV/AIDS New South Wales Community Forum*. Sydney.

Prestage GP. Social research findings and the increase in HIV infections. *Sydney Sexual Health Centre*. Sydney.

Prestage GP, Rawstone P, Fogarty A. Positive Health Study: Findings and implications. *People Living with HIV/AIDS New South Wales Community Forum*. Sydney.

Prestage GP, Rawstone P, Grierson J. Positive Health Study: Findings and implications. *Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Community Health Centre Community Forum*. Melbourne.

Ramacciotti T, Cunningham P, Grey P, Zaunders J, Law MG, Kelleher AD, Johnston M, Spotts G, Cooper DA, Kaldor JM, Smith DE. A comparison of the Western blot and detuned ELISA assays for detection and staging of primary HIV-1 infection. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.

Ramacciotti T, Cunningham P, Grey P, Zaunders J, Law MG, Kelleher AD, Johnston M, Spotts G, Cooper DA, Kaldor JM, Smith DE. A novel method for identification and staging of primary HIV-1 infection. *Second International Workshop on Acute HIV-1 Infection*. Bethesda, USA.

Sasson S. Progressive dysregulation of the IL-7/R system in HIV-1 infection. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.

Satchell CS. SMART study coordinator questionnaire summary. *SMART Study Investigators' Meeting*. Sydney.

Thein HH. HIV and hepatitis C virus prevalence and related risk behaviours among injecting drug users in the Australian Needle and Syringe Programs survey. *New South Wales Work Force Development Program Meeting*. Sydney.

van Bockel D. Phenotypic and molecular characterisation of antigen specific T-cells in HIV infection. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.

Winston A. A 48 week, randomised study to describe the pharmacokinetic profile and durability of atazanavir-saquinavir-ritonavir using saquinavir 500mg formulation. *NCHECR Combined Working Groups Meeting*. Sydney.

Winston A. Initiating a change in HAART. *The NCHECR Trial Network Site Coordinators Meeting*. Canberra.

Poster presentations

Ammaranond P, Cunningham P, Oelrichs R, Suzuki K, Harris C, Leas L, Grulich AE, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. No increase in protease resistance and a decrease in reverse transcriptase resistance mutations in primary HIV-1 infection: 1992-2003. *2nd International Workshop on Acute HIV-1 Infection*. Washington DC, USA.

Ammaranond P, Guerin J, Anderson B, Doong N, Finlayson R, Kelly M, McMurchie M, Price R, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD on behalf of the LTNP Study Group. The effect of escape mutation upon disease progression in HLA B27 positive individuals within the Australian long-term non-progressors cohort. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.

Ammaranond P, Guerin J, Anderson B, Doong N, Finlayson R, Kelly M, McMurchie M, Price R, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD on behalf of the LTNP Study Group. The effect of escape mutation upon disease progression in HLA B27 positive individuals within the Australian long-term non-progressors cohort. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.

Ammaranond P, Leas L, Cunningham P, Suzuki K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD on behalf of the PHAEDRA Study Group. Update on the prevalence of transmitted drug resistance mutations in inner Sydney: 2002-2003. *St Vincent's Hospital & Mater Health Research Symposium*. Sydney.

Ammaranond P, van Bockel D, Zaunders J, Satchell CS, Guerin J, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. A novel escape mutation in HLA B27 positive individuals infected with HIV-1. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.

Carey DL, Wand H, Martin A, Emery SE, Carr A, Cooper DA on behalf of the ROSEY Study Team. Evaluation of ultrasound for assessing facial lipoatrophy in a randomised, placebo-controlled trial. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.

- Carey DL, Workman C, Rogers G, Baker D, Martin A, Wand H, Emery SE, Cooper DA, Carr A on behalf of the ROSEY Study Team. Rosiglitazone for HIV lipodystrophy: 84 weeks follow-up. *6th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV*. Washington DC, USA.
- Carey DL, Workman C, Rogers G, Baker D, Martin A, Wand H, Emery SE, Cooper DA, Carr A on behalf of the ROSEY Study Team. Rosiglitazone for HIV lipodystrophy: 84 weeks follow-up. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Clayton S, Prestage GP, Ryan L, McGuigan D. Responding to a changing epidemic: Re-invigorating safe sex in response to an increase in HIV infections. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Cooper DA, Dwyer D, Workman C, Amin J, Miller J, Hales G, Emery SE. An open label study to determine the efficacy and safety of enfuvirtide in patients changing therapy to a nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor sparing regimen. *7th International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection*. Glasgow, UK.
- Crawford J, Kippax S, Mao L, Van de Ven P, Prestage GP, Grulich AE, Kaldor JM. Factors associated with frequent as opposed to occasional risk-taking: Unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners among HIV seronegative men in Sydney Australia. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Drummond F, Mullin C, Poehlman M on behalf of the SMART Protocol Team (CPCRA 065) and the Terry Beinr Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS. Predictors of low high-density lipoprotein cholesterol in HIV-positive patients: Effect of class of antiretroviral therapy and traditional risk factors. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- Duncombe CJ, Kerr SJ, Ruxrungtham K, Dore GJ, Law MG, Emery SE, Lange JP, Cooper DA, Phanuphak P. Disease progression and death in a cohort of HIV-infected patients treated via a clinical research network in a resource-limited setting. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Grey P, Smith DE, Petoumenos K, Zaunders J, Kelleher AD, Cunningham P, Carr A, Bloch M, Finlayson R, McFarlane R, Kaldor JM, Cooper DA and the PULSE Study Group. Virological and immunological predictors of time to initial viral suppression and viral rebound in a randomised trial of combination therapy in primary HIV infection followed by treatment interruption. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- Grey P, Smith DE, Petoumenos K, Zaunders J, Kelleher AD, Cunningham P, Carr A, Bloch M, Finlayson R, McFarlane R, Kaldor JM, Cooper DA and the PULSE Study Group. Virological and immunological predictors of time to initial viral suppression and viral rebound in a randomised trial of combination therapy in primary HIV infection followed by treatment interruption. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Grulich AE, Vajdic CM, Kaldor JM, Hughes AM, Krickler A, Fritschi L, Turner JJ, Milliken S, Benke G, Armstrong BK. Birth order, atopy and risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma. *American Society of Hematology 46th Annual Meeting and Exposition*. San Diego, USA.
- Hamlyn L, McAlister J, Winston A, Sinclair B, Carr A, Cooper DA. Screening for sexually transmitted infections in individuals receiving non-occupational HIV post-exposure prophylaxis. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Ho H, Maher L, Crofts N. HIV risk behaviours among ethnic Vietnamese injecting drug users in Australia. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Hughes AM, Armstrong BK, Vajdic CM, Turner J, Grulich AE, Fritschi L, Milliken S, Kaldor JM, Benke G, Krickler A. Sun exposure appears to protect against non-Hodgkin lymphoma: A case-control study. *95th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research*. Orlando, USA.
- Jin FY, Prestage GP, Pell C, Donovan B, Van de Ven P, Kippax S, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ, Grulich AE on behalf of the Australia-Thai HIV Vaccine Consortium. Prevalence and risk factors for hepatitis C in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Jin FY, Prestage GP, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE on behalf of the Australia-Thai HIV Vaccine Consortium. Incidence and risk factors for HIV seroconversion in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Jin FY, Prestage GP, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Pell C, Donovan B, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE. Prevalence, incidence and risk factors for HIV, syphilis, gonorrhoea and chlamydia in an HIV-negative cohort of homosexual men. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Kumarasamy N, Zhou J on behalf of the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. TREAT Asia Observational Database: Baseline and retrospective data. *8th International Workshop on HIV Observational Databases*. Montreux, Switzerland.
- Kumarasamy N, Zhou J on behalf of the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. TREAT Asia Observational Database: Baseline and retrospective data. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.

- Law MG, D'Arminio Monforte A, Friis-Moller N, Weber R, El-Sadr W, Reiss P, Dabis F, Morfeldt L, De Wit S, Pradier C, Calvo G, Kirk O, Sabin C, Phillips AN, Lundgren JD. Cardio- and cerebrovascular events and predicted rates of myocardial infarction in the DAD Study. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- Mallon PWG, Morey L, Sedwell R, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors cause decreased apidocyte mitochondrial (mt) mRNA transcription in the absence of changes in mtDNA copy number or cell morphology. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Mallon PWG, Sedwell R, Unemori P, Merlin K, McGinley C, Ammaranond P, Piperias M, Rafferty M, Williams K, Samaras K, Morey L, Chisholm D, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTI) cause decreased apidocyte mitochondrial (mt) mRNA transcription in the absence of changes in mtDNA copy number or cell morphology. *6th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV*. Washington DC, USA.
- Mallon PWG, Sedwell R, Unemori P, Rafferty M, Williams K, Chisholm D, Samaras K, Emery SE, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A. Changes in nuclear gene expression resulting from NRTI-induced inhibition of mitochondrial transcription reveal links between mitochondrial dysfunction and lipid metabolism. *6th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV*. Washington DC, USA.
- Mallon PWG, Sedwell R, Unemori P, Rafferty M, Williams K, Chisholm D, Samaras K, Emery SE, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A. Changes in nuclear gene expression resulting from NRTI-induced inhibition of mitochondrial transcription reveal links between mitochondrial dysfunction and lipid metabolism. *St Vincent's Hospital & Mater Health Research Symposium*. Sydney.
- Mao L, Van de Ven P, Prestage GP. Gay Asian men in Sydney resist international trend: No change in rates of unprotected anal intercourse, 1999-2002. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Martin A, Kovacic J, Carey DL, Emery SE, Wand H, Feneley M, Cooper DA, Carr A and the ROSEY Study Team. Does rosiglitazone alter vascular function in patients with HIV lipodystrophy? *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- McDonald AM, Cunningham P, Kelleher AD, Kaldor JM. Evaluation of the detuned antibody test in Australia. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Middleton MG, Merlin K, Guerin J, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Kaldor JM on behalf of the LTNP Study Group. Frequency of HLA types in the Australian long term non-progressor cohort. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Munier MLC, Zaunders J, van Bockel D, Ip S, Dolan G, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD for the HVDDT Consortium. Optimisation of a 6-colour intracellular cytokine assay for assessment of vaccine immunogenicity. *AIDS Vaccine 2004 International Conference*. Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Munro R, Amin J, Hales G. An analysis of the time taken for clinical trial data to be submitted to central data management. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Petoumenos K on behalf of the Australian HIV Observational Database. Assessing regional differences in treatment uptake and HIV disease progression in the Australian HIV Observational Database. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Petoumenos K on behalf of the Australian HIV Observational Database. Long-term trends in CD4 count changes in people receiving antiretroviral treatment for more than three years. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Petoumenos K on behalf of the Australian HIV Observational Database. Long-term trends in CD4 count changes in people receiving antiretroviral treatment for more than three years. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Polis S. Hepatitis C virus course for registered nurses. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Polis S. National surveillance of hepatitis C virus infection in Australian children. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Polis S. Women's perception of antenatal screening for hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C virus. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
- Prestage GP, Grulich AE, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Kippax S, Kaldor JM. Degree of acquaintance between casual partners prior to unprotected anal intercourse in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Prestage GP, Hurley M, Mao L. Gay community: Subcultures, risk and 'comfortableness'. *16th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine*. Canberra.
- Prestage GP, Van de Ven P, Mao L, Hua M, McMahon T. Disclosure of homosexuality and HIV and STI testing among Asian gay men in Sydney. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.

- Ramacciotti T, Smith DE, Johnston M, Pae E, Bloch M, Rosenberg E, Kaldor JM, Walker B and the Boston-Sydney PHI Study Group. Clinical characteristics and treatment uptake in patients newly infected with HIV identified over a 1-year period: The PHAEDRA collaborative cohort. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- Rawstone P, Fogarty A, Crawford J, Prestage GP, Grierson J, Kippax S. Esoteric sex practice and less education distinguish HIV-positive men who 'frequently' compared with 'occasionally' engage in risky unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners acts. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Rawstone P, Hull P, Van de Ven P, Prestage GP, Crawford J, Kippax S. Taking HAART is associated with less sexual risk with casual partners. *XV International AIDS Conference*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Sasson S, Zanetti G, Zaunders J, Mallon PWG, Merlin K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. IL-7 down-regulates surface expression of IL-7R *in vitro* and *in vivo*. *2nd International Workshop on Acute HIV-1 Infection*. Washington DC, USA.
- Sasson S, Zanetti G, Zaunders J, Mallon PWG, Merlin K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. IL-7 down-regulates surface expression of IL-7R *in vitro* and *in vivo*. *11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. San Francisco, USA.
- Sedwell R, Mallon PWG, Merlin K, McGinley C, Ammaranond P, Piperias M, Kelleher AD, Cooper DA, Carr A. Use of monocyte gene expression to monitor drug toxicity - optimisation of isolation and RNA extraction. *St Vincent's Hospital & Mater Health Research Symposium*. Sydney.
- Shourie S, Middleton MG, Kaldor JM, Dore GJ on behalf of the National Viral Hepatitis Surveillance Committee. Review of the hepatitis C surveillance strategy: Identifying the gaps. *4th Australasian Hepatitis C Conference*. Canberra.
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