



NATIONAL CENTRE IN
HIV EPIDEMIOLOGY AND
CLINICAL RESEARCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

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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.



Program Management Committee

Back row: Matthew Law, Basil Donovan, Sean Emery, Lisa Maher, David Cooper, John Kaldor

Front row: Anthony Kelleher, Annie Tung, Bronwen Turner, Greg Dore
Front: Andrew Grulich

NCHECR's primary functions relate to the coordination of national surveillance programs, clinical research 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.

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 including the pharmaceutical industry. 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 Committee 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 Clinical Research
- Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention
- Biostatistics and Databases
- Immunovirology and Pathogenesis

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 the conduct of the Centre's workplan. Externally, the Centre's work is overseen by a Scientific Advisory Committee.



Foreword

The major event for NCHECR during 2007 was undoubtedly the 4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention. This conference was the first of its kind to take place in Australia, and attracted over 5,500 participants from overseas. NCHECR was integrally involved in the planning and conduct of the scientific program and other aspects of the conference, working closely with the International AIDS Society and the local host, the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine.

The major new HIV therapeutic trial for 2007 was ALTAIR, a randomised comparison of three regimens of combination antiretroviral therapy in treatment naïve subjects. This two year trial sponsored by UNSW is conducted at over 30 recruiting sites in 14 countries on five continents. An early phase trial of a candidate vaccine began in Thailand, signalling the successful transfer of a portfolio of clinical and laboratory expertise to partners in a resource-limited setting. However, the year also saw the closure of STEP, a major international vaccine trial that NCHECR was involved in through a single Australian site, with concerns being raised about safety.

Also new in 2007 was the establishment of ACCESS, a national surveillance project led jointly by NCHECR and the Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, and dedicated to obtaining a better understanding of the occurrence of chlamydial infection. NCHECR's research on immune deficiency and cancer achieved considerable prominence during 2007, with the publication of a comprehensive meta-analysis of the different tumour types occurring after both HIV-related and chemical immune suppression.

A safety trial was completed during 2007 of an agent that could potentially be used as a microbicide for HIV prevention, representing NCHECR's first involvement in a randomised trial of a biomedical agent for prevention other than a candidate vaccine. The Health in Men (HIM) cohort of HIV-negative gay men continued to produce new knowledge about the transmission of HIV and other infections in this population.



David Cooper, John Kaldor

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health has always been an important area for NCHECR, and is now recognised by designated staff working on a range of new initiatives. One of the first outcomes was a new annual surveillance report on HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, launched in November in conjunction with the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation Annual General Meeting.

Follow-up was completed on TICO, NCHECR's first clinical trial of treatment for viral hepatitis, based largely in Thailand. Recruitment closed for ATAHIC, the largest study in the world of the treatment and natural history of acute hepatitis C infection among injecting drug users, and preliminary findings were released on treatment outcomes.

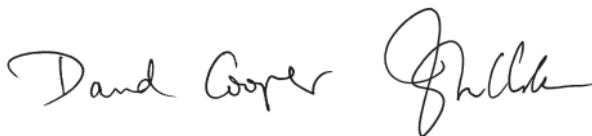
With other UNSW colleagues, NCHECR was involved in a successful application to obtain a Strategic Research Grant from UNSW for the Hepatitis C Virus Vaccine Initiative. This program aims to establish the laboratory, clinical and social science framework for conducting trials of candidate vaccines against hepatitis C.

The second phase of the evaluation of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) ended in 2007 with the submission of a final report, leading to the decision by the New South Wales Government to continue to support the facility for another four years.

NCHECR saw a major expansion in its mathematical modelling capacity during 2007, with the addition of several new staff and research grants from several sources. This area promises to be an increasingly important one for NCHECR in the future, as it complements and adds value to the empirical research being conducted by the Centre.

The disappointing and surprising results of the STEP vaccine trial demonstrate that new insights into the immune response to HIV are required. The laboratory that underpins much of NCHECR's research in both prevention and treatment continued to develop novel techniques to better evaluate the components of the immune system. Several of these have been patented. During 2007 one of these began commercial development under licence. The use of small RNAs to silence HIV expression was further developed with the identification of similar targets in Simian immunodeficiency virus, potentially allowing pre-clinical testing of this putative therapeutic strategy in an animal model. The primary HIV infection and long-term nonprogressor cohorts and their matched samples continued to provide pathogenic insights both in terms of possible limitations in the natural immune response and the ability of the virus to evolve away from the immune response.

During the International AIDS Society Conference, NCHECR took the opportunity to hold a 21st birthday party, which allowed us to recognise the staff, national and international research collaborators and partners and supporters from the community and government sectors who have been so crucial to our ability to conduct our research program. We were pleased to celebrate our collective achievements, but remain acutely aware of the sober task that still faces us as we continue to look for ways to better prevent and treat HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'David Cooper' and the signature on the right is 'John Kaldor'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Cooper, Director

John Kaldor, Deputy Director



Research activities

The following sections describe NCHECR achievements and activities within Programs during 2007. 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.

The Director, David Cooper, directly supervises the Heads of the Programs in Therapeutic and Vaccine Research, Immunovirology and Pathogenesis and Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

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 Epidemiology and Prevention and Biostatistics and Databases, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.



Executive Committee

Bronwen Turner, John Kaldor, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Surveillance Program

The Surveillance Program continued to monitor the pattern of transmission of HIV, hepatitis B and C, and specific sexually transmissible infections in Australia in 2007, 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 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 2007*. This was the eleventh successive issue of the *Annual Surveillance Report* and was formally released at the *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007* by Dr Christine Selvey, Senior Director of the Communicable Diseases Branch at Queensland Health.

Trends in the population rate of new HIV diagnoses published in the *Annual Surveillance Report 2007* indicated that the rate was stable in New South Wales over the past five years and had increased in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia. For the first time, national trends in new diagnoses of infectious syphilis were included in the *Annual Surveillance Report* and showed an increasing rate of diagnosis among males. During 2007, 1,912 people who inject drugs participated in the Australian Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) Survey, the primary surveillance mechanism for monitoring HIV, hepatitis C and associated risk behaviours among this group in Australia. Studies identifying prevalence and predictors of self reported injecting-related injuries and diseases among NSP Survey participants and an examination of the representativeness of the 2006 NSP Survey sample were also completed in 2007.

For the first time a separate surveillance report, *Bloodborne viral and sexually transmitted infections in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: Surveillance Report 2007*, was published to stimulate and support discussion on ways forward in addressing the unacceptably high rates of bacterial sexually transmitted infections in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The *Surveillance Report 2007* was released at the Annual General Meeting of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation held in Sydney in November.

The first issue of the *Surveillance Report 2007* reported substantially higher rates of diagnoses of chlamydia, gonorrhoea and infectious syphilis in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population compared with the non-Indigenous population, particularly in remote and very remote areas of Australia. A gradual decline in the rate of HIV diagnosis was reported among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men compared to an increase in the rate among non-Indigenous men.



John Kaldor

With funding from the Australian Government Chlamydia Pilot Program, from mid 2007 a collaboration led by NCHECR and the Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health began establishing the Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia

Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS) project. Other collaborators include the National Perinatal Statistics Unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and the National Serology Reference Laboratory, Australia network. The ACCESS project is exploring means of monitoring patient numbers and chlamydia testing rates and yields in general practice, family planning services, sexual health clinics, Aboriginal community-controlled health services, and antenatal clinics around Australia. For the first time, chlamydia surveillance data on priority populations such as young heterosexuals, men who have men, sex workers, pregnant women, and Aboriginal people will become available to complement and enable better interpretation of routine notification data.

National surveillance coordination and information dissemination

Support for the National Bloodborne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee

In early 2007, the work of the three national surveillance committees for HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections was combined into a single committee, named the National Bloodborne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee. Its terms of reference include the development of new initiatives in case surveillance for HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and C and specific sexually transmissible infections, 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: During 2007, an externally appointed committee from Monash University was established to review national HIV/AIDS surveillance procedures and analyses at NCHECR and in State and Territory Health Departments. The Surveillance Program's standard operating procedures for national HIV/AIDS case surveillance were made available through NCHECR's website in August 2007. The Communicable Diseases Network Australia endorsed proposals made by the Committee for routine monitoring of HIV subtype and use of serological tests for monitoring recent HIV infection among cases of newly diagnosed HIV infection in Australia. A subcommittee was

established in 2007 for the development of secure electronic methods of transfer of HIV/AIDS case surveillance data between the NCHECR and State and Territory health authorities. The Committee agreed that national coordination of enhanced surveillance for newly acquired hepatitis C infection and sexually transmissible infections would be carried out through the National Notifiable Diseases System. It was also agreed that a review of available surveillance data on diagnoses of infectious syphilis would be carried out, following reports by most State and Territory health authorities of substantial increases in the number of new diagnoses.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Libby Topp, Handan Wand, Basil Donovan

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing; 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: Ongoing. The *Annual Surveillance Report* was published for the eleventh successive year.

Personnel: Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Libby Topp, 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

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.

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

Bloodborne viral and sexually transmitted infections in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: Surveillance Report 2007

While the pattern of diagnosis of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is described in the *Annual Surveillance Report*, more detailed analyses and interpretations of national surveillance data for these infections are compiled separately in a single comprehensive report, for use by organisations and individuals with an interest in the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Status: The first issue of *Bloodborne viral and sexually transmitted infections in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: Surveillance Report 2007* was released in 2007.

Personnel: James Ward, 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

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

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, providing information on more recent patterns of HIV transmission than does AIDS surveillance.

Status: Ongoing

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

Personnel: Ann McDonald

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 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

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

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

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV; 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 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: Study completed.

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

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

Surveillance for viral hepatitis

Monitoring cases of newly diagnosed viral hepatitis

The pattern of transmission of viral hepatitis is monitored through national surveillance for newly diagnosed hepatitis B and hepatitis C infection, and newly acquired infections notified to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System. Additional information on newly acquired hepatitis B and C notifications and country of birth is obtained directly from State and Territory health authorities.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Libby Topp, Lisa Maher

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

Personnel: John Kaldor

Collaborators: Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit; The Children's Hospital at Westmead; Royal Children's 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

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Greg Dore

Collaborator: Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Register



Back row: Libby Topp, Lisa Maher, Basil Donovan, John Kaldor, Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton
Front row: Andrew Grulich, Handan Wand, Jenny Iverson

Surveillance for sexually transmissible infections

Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS)

ACCESS involves the establishment of six separate chlamydia sentinel surveillance networks, each providing unique information on testing uptake and prevalence of chlamydia infection in a range of priority populations; young heterosexuals, men who have sex with men, Indigenous people, pregnant women and sex workers.

Status: Relationships have been established with all of the networks, memoranda of understanding signed, and computer programs are being developed with the aim of extracting data from routine clinical databases.

Personnel: Basil Donovan, Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor, Lina Safo, James Ward

Collaborators: Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare National Perinatal Statistics Unit, UNSW; National Serology Reference Laboratory, Australia; Family Planning Associations; Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine, Royal Australasian College of Physicians; National Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisations

Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Long-term surveillance for genital warts in Australian sexual health services

This project determines trends in rates of diagnoses of genital warts in selected populations by leveraging off the sexual health services arm of the ACCESS project.

Status: In development.

Personnel: Basil Donovan, Andrew Grulich, Lina Safo

Collaborators: Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Sydney Sexual Health Centre; School of Public Health, The University of Melbourne

Funding: CSL Limited

Surveillance in selected populations

Needle and syringe program surveys

Annual cross-sectional surveys are conducted during a designated week in October at selected needle and syringe program (NSP) sites throughout Australia. All clients attending participating sites during the survey week are asked to complete a self-administered questionnaire, and to provide a capillary blood sample for HIV and hepatitis C antibody testing. NCHECR maintains the national database on behalf of the Collaboration of Australian Needle and Syringe Programs, and develops and carries out analyses of NSP data and prepares surveillance reports and papers for publication.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Jenny Iverson, Libby Topp, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: State and Territory health authorities; NSPs involved in HIV/hepatitis C surveillance; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Association for Prevention and Harm Reduction Programs (ANEX); Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL); Justice Health

Monitoring hepatitis C incidence among injecting drug users

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

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Libby Topp, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: Carla Janssen, Ingrid van Beek, Kirkeaton 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

Personnel: Ann McDonald

Collaborators: Collaborative group on sentinel surveillance in sexual health clinics

Monitoring HIV antibody prevalence among prison entrants in Australia

HIV transmission among people entering Australian prisons is monitored through reports received from State and Territory Departments of Corrections of the number of people received into prisons each quarter, the numbers who were voluntarily tested for HIV antibody and the numbers with diagnosed HIV infection.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Ann McDonald

Collaborators: State and Territory Departments of Corrections

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

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Ann McDonald, Libby Topp

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 2007, surveys were conducted in Sydney (3,402 completed questionnaires), Melbourne (2,043 completed questionnaires), Queensland (1,417 completed questionnaires) and Adelaide (527 completed questionnaires).

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; South Australian Department of Health

International

Monitoring and surveillance of HIV voluntary counselling and testing sites in Indonesia

A pilot study to establish procedural feasibility for measuring the extent and outcome of HIV testing at voluntary counselling and testing sites.

Status: Pilot study completed.

Personnel: John Kaldor

Collaborators: GRM International Pty Ltd; Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research and Public Health; Government of Indonesia; Nurlan Silitonga

Funding: AusAID

Development of HIV surveillance plan for Papua New Guinea

Provision of technical assistance to the Papua New Guinea National Department of Health to develop a comprehensive surveillance plan.

Status: Draft surveillance plan finalised.

Personnel: John Kaldor

Collaborators: Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research and Public Health; Government of Papua New Guinea; World Health Organisation

Funding: World Health Organisation

Surveillance Program sentinel surveillance network of sexual health clinics

Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic

Site principal: John Patten

Site coordinator: Henry Magon

Clinic 275

Site principal: Russell Waddell

Gold Coast Sexual Health Service

Site principal: John Chuah

Site coordinator: Wendy Fankhauser

Livingstone Road Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Catherine O'Connor

Site coordinator: Felicia Robinson

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Site principals: Christopher Fairley, Ian Denham

Sydney Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Basil Donovan

Site coordinator: Lynne Wray

Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program

The conduct of clinical trials requires patience and perseverance. Studies in chronic diseases particularly, require additional dedication and diligence.

The Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program (TVRP) continued its support to a range of studies conducted both through Australian and international investigational sites. Some of these studies (ESPRIT and SILCAAT) commenced several years ago, and maintaining patient and site personnel interest can often be very challenging. We are enormously proud that in both of these studies we are able to maintain follow-up of virtually all of the approximately 1,500 original trial participants in our region (losses to follow-up are around 3%). We anticipate that both ESPRIT and SILCAAT will conclude follow-up during 2008. With total recruitment exceeding 6,000 patients and median follow-up of five years, it is clear these two projects will generate a wealth of data in addition to addressing the primary objective for which they were originally designed.

TVRP personnel provided leadership for the conduct of the ALTAIR protocol at over 30 sites in 14 countries around the world. TVRP also continued support for the conduct of the STEAL study in the domestic network, and commenced recruitment into two candidate HIV vaccine trials (STEP and Australian-Thai HIV Vaccine Program (AE#1) studies).

During 2007, design and development commenced for the PINT study in collaboration with colleagues in the Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program and St Vincent's Hospital. The PINT study was a direct consequence of some potentially important clinical observations made by NCHECR personnel related to viral decay characteristics following commencement of the new integrase inhibitor, raltegravir. In addition, TVRP personnel played a key role during 2007 in the commencement of the STALWART protocol through a select number of sites in the INSIGHT network. At the conclusion of the year, recruitment into this protocol through sites coordinated by TVRP was substantially higher than any other coordinating centre in the collaborative research network.

The FLASH study completed the initial 24 week period, and a rapid analysis of data revealed no substantial benefit for recipients of subcutaneous poly-L-lactic acid injections for a range of objective measures of facial volume. However, and perhaps importantly, recipients of the product were clearly of the view there were reliable and demonstrable improvements in their appearance. Follow-up of this cohort will continue to allow longer term examinations of the impact of this intervention.

Many TVRP personnel and colleagues from the INSIGHT network were involved in additional analyses of data and samples from the SMART study. Objectives of these studies included examinations of clinical endpoints in patients who were not taking antiretroviral drugs at the time of entry into the study and attempts to understand underlying pathophysiology linked to non-AIDS defining illnesses. Publications arising from this work have resulted in significant changes to antiretroviral treatment guidelines around the world and radically altered our understanding of the natural history of HIV disease. The research also provided further impetus for the design of a randomised clinical trial to determine the optimal time to commence antiretroviral therapy. TVRP personnel are at the forefront of the START protocol that we hope will commence during 2008 through the INSIGHT network.



Sean Emery

TVRP personnel also commenced planning for two additional trials (ENCORE and SECOND-LINE). These moderate-sized studies (700 and 500 patients respectively) are intended to inform clinical practice in two key areas: Firstly, whether or not it is possible to treat using

lower doses of some antiretroviral drugs. And secondly, how best to manage patients with virologic failure to first line therapy, particularly in light of a new class of antiretroviral drugs, the integrase inhibitors. Clearly, the public health consequences of data from these studies would be substantial in resource-limited settings.

Sean Emery, Head of the Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program, has a supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

Antiretroviral therapy

Studies recruiting during 2007

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: 5,120/unlimited

Personnel: Sean Emery

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: 1,473/2,800

Personnel: Sean Emery

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

Activity and safety of SCH 532706 in HIV-1-infected subjects (P04112): Immunology substudy

An immunology substudy of P04112 (see *Annual Report 2006*) to explore changes in T-cell trafficking, HIV proviral DNA and immune responses to common latent pathogens in HIV-1 infected subjects receiving the CCR5 antagonist SCH 532706 followed by combination antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Recruitment opened February 2007, and closed July 2007.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 10/12

Personnel: Sarah Pett, Sean Emery, Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper

Funding: Schering-Plough Research Institute

ALTAIR

A randomised open-label study comparing the safety and efficacy of three different combination antiretroviral regimens as initial therapy for HIV infection.

Status: Recruitment opened January 2007.

Sites: 37 sites in 14 countries

Enrolled/target: 216/300

Personnel: Rebekah Puls, Fraser Drummond, Claudette Satchell, Carlo Dazo, Kathy Petoumenos, Chris Duncombe, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: Gilead Sciences



Aurelio Vulcao, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Emma Butler, Maja Berilazic, Wendy Lee, Rosemary Robson

Studies closed to recruitment or completed during 2007

SMART

A large, simple, trial comparing two strategies for management of antiretroviral therapy: this study examines 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, and closed January 2006.

Sites: 22 Australia, 3 New Zealand, 1 Japan, 13 Argentina, 1 Chile, 1 Uruguay, 5 Thailand, 1 Israel

Enrolled/target: 170/200 Australia (includes 7 enrolled in New Zealand), 5,472/6,000 internationally

Personnel: Fraser Drummond, Claudette Satchell, Maria Arriaga, Chris Duncombe, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

STEAL

A randomised, open-label trial to assess the safety and efficacy of switching to fixed-dose tenofovir-emtricitabine or abacavir-lamivudine.

Status: Recruitment opened December 2005, and closed August 2006.

Sites: 29

Enrolled/target: 350/350

Personnel: Allison Humphries, Cate Carey, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Lina Safro, Simone Jacoby, Janaki Amin, Sean Emery, Tian Erho, Hila Haskelberg, Aurelio Vulcao

Studies in preparation during 2007

PINT

This study is described under the Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program (see page 37).

PILOT

An open-label pilot study to examine the safety, efficacy and pharmacokinetics of raltegravir in combination with atazanavir for the treatment of HIV infected patients initiating antiretroviral therapy.

Status: In development.

Sites: 2 to 3

Target: 20

Personnel: Dianne Carey, Sean Emery

Funding: Undetermined

SECOND-LINE

A randomised, open-label study comparing the safety and efficacy of two different combination antiretroviral regimens as second-line therapy for control of HIV infection after first-line regimen failure in resource-rich and resource-limited settings.

Status: In development.

Sites: 25

Target: 500

Personnel: Mark Boyd, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: Undetermined

Toxicology/pharmacology studies

Studies closed to recruitment or completed during 2007

Facial Lipoatrophy Trial (FLASH)

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 lipoatrophy.

Status: Study completed.

Sites: 18

Enrolled/target: 101/100

Personnel: Dianne Carey, Wendy Lee, Kathy Petoumenos, Sean Emery

Funding: NSW Health Department; AIDS Council of New South Wales; GlaxoSmithKline; Bristol-Myers Squibb (Australia); Abbott Australasia; Roche Australia Pty Ltd; Gilead Sciences; Merck Sharp & Dohme, Australia; Sanofi-Aventis

Immune-based therapies and vaccines

Studies recruiting during 2007

STALWART

A randomised, open-label, phase II, international study of sc IL-2 with and without concomitant antiretroviral therapy in patients with HIV-1 infection and CD4+ cell counts >300 cells/ μ L: study of aldesleukin with and without antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Recruitment opened December 2005.

Sites: 13

Enrolled/target: 136/200 (Australia, Argentina, Thailand)

Personnel: Cate Carey, David Courtney-Rodgers, Chris Duncombe, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

ESPRIT, TOXIL-2 Substudy

A randomised study to compare the safety and effectiveness of different regimens for supportive medication administered during cycles of interleukin-2.

Status: Recruitment opened April 2006.

Sites: 12 (6 Argentina, 5 Australia, 1 Thailand)

Enrolled/target: 26/168

Personnel: Sarah Pett, Sean Emery, Handan Wand, Matthew Law

Australian-Thai HIV Vaccine Program (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: Recruitment opened July 2007.

Sites: 1 HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 8/24

Personnel: Rebekah Puls, Anthony Kelleher, Wendy Lee, Chris Duncombe

Studies closed to recruitment or completed during 2007

The STEP Study

A study to compare a 3-dose immunisation with the Merck HIV vaccine (MRKAd5 HIV-1 gag/pol/nef) to placebo in adults at high risk of HIV infection.

Status: Study completed.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 2,940/3,000 globally

Personnel: Rebekah Puls, Sean Emery, Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper

Funding: Merck Sharp & Dohme, Australia

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 under active antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Recruitment closed October 2002. Follow-up to be completed 2008.

Sites: 17 in the Sydney Regional Coordinating Centre (12 Australia, 5 Argentina)

Enrolled/target: 1971/2000 internationally (includes 126 enrolled in Australia, and 167 in Argentina)

Personnel: Sarah Pett, Cate Carey, David Courtney-Rodgers, Nisha Seneviratne, Mary Ellen Harrod, Emma Watts, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Limited

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 2008

Sites: 48 in the Sydney International Coordinating Centre (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, Mary Ellen Harrod, Nisha Seneviratne, Emma Watts, Chris Duncombe, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

ESPRIT, FLUVAC Substudy

A phase III substudy of ESPRIT exploring immune responses to consecutive annual influenza vaccination.

Status: Recruitment closed December 2005. Follow up to be completed 2008.

Sites: 8

Enrolled/target: 269/400, with 48 enrolments from 8 Australian sites.

Personnel: Sarah Pett, Cate Carey, David Courtney-Rodgers

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Studies in preparation during 2007

Intensification with raltegravir and bovine colostrums

A randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled multi-centre study to measure the effect on CD4+ outcomes of combination antiretroviral therapy intensification with or without passive immunotherapy to reduce immune activation in HIV-infected individuals with persistent CD4+ T-cell count <350 cells/ μ L despite prolonged HIV plasma viraemia <50 copies/mL for at least 12 months on combination antiretroviral therapy.

Status: In development.

Sites: To be decided.

Target: 75

Personnel: Helen Byakwaga, Sean Emery

Funding: Undetermined

Miscellaneous

Studies in preparation during 2007

PIPET A

A prospective study to examine the effectiveness and safety of neuraminidase inhibitors in index cases with presumed pandemic influenza infection.

Status: In development.

Sites: To be decided, submitted at 8 sites in Australia.

Target: To be decided.

Personnel: Allison Humphries, Mary Ellen Harrod, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Wendy Lee, Noorul Absar, Anthony Kelleher, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: NHMRC

PIPET B

A prospective study to examine the effectiveness and safety of neuraminidase inhibitors in volunteers who receive short-term prophylaxis against pandemic influenza.

Status: In development.

Sites: To be decided, submitted at 8 sites in Australia.

Target: To be decided.

Personnel: Allison Humphries, Mary Ellen Harrod, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Wendy Lee, Absar Noorul, Anthony Kelleher, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: NHMRC

PIPET C

A prospective study to examine the effectiveness and safety of neuraminidase inhibitors in volunteers who receive long-term prophylaxis against pandemic influenza.

Status: In development.

Sites: To be decided, submitted at 8 sites in Australia.

Target: To be decided.

Personnel: Allison Humphries, Mary Ellen Harrod, Kymme Courtney-Vega, Wendy Lee, Absar Noorul, Anthony Kelleher, Sean Emery, David Cooper

Funding: NHMRC

Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program (TVRP) clinical trials network (Australian/New Zealand sites)

Each site listed below has recruited and followed at least one subject in a TVRP research protocol during 2007.

Australian sites

Australian Capital Territory

Canberra Sexual Health Clinic, Canberra Hospital

Site principal: Ashley Watson

Site coordinators: Ruth Primrose, Rendry del Rosario

New South Wales

407 Doctors

Site principals: David Baker, Marilyn McMurchie

Site coordinators: Robyn Vale, Tina Busic

AIDS Research Initiative

Site principal: Cassy Workman

Site coordinator: Vanessa Rees

Albion Street Centre

Site principals: Don Smith, Julian Gold

Site coordinators: Jega Sarangapany, Jason Gao, Denise Smith

Bigge Park Centre, Liverpool Hospital

Site principal: John Quin

Site coordinators: Gary Keogh, Catherine MacGill

Burwood Road General Practice

Site principal: Nicholas Doong

Site coordinator: Jeff Hudson

Clinic 16, Royal North Shore Hospital

Site principals: George Kotsiou, Linda Dayan, Steven Davies

Site coordinator: Joanne Holahan

Holdsworth House General Practice

Site principal: Mark Bloch

Site coordinators: Shikha Agrawal, Teo Franic, Kate Beileiter

Immunology and Infectious Diseases Clinic, John Hunter Hospital

Site principal: Michael Boyle

Site coordinators: Pauline Dobson, Leah Carrall, Carolyn Nowlan

Immunology B Ambulatory Care Clinic, St Vincent's Hospital

Site principals: David Cooper, Sarah Pett, Anthony Kelleher, Fraser Drummond

Site coordinators: Richard Norris, Karen MacRae, John McAllister, Martina Rafferty, Robert Fielden, Mengjun Zhu

Prince of Wales Hospital

Site principals: Kate Clezy, Jeff Post

Site coordinator: Suzanne Ryan

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Site principal: Roger Garsia

Site coordinator: Marry Moussa

Taylor Square Private Clinic

Site principal: Robert Finlayson

Site coordinators: Robyn Richardson, Sophie Dinning, Debra Gleeson

Waratah Clinic, St George Hospital

Site principal: Pam Konecny

Site coordinator: Robyn Dever

Westmead Hospital

Site principal: Dominic Dwyer

Site coordinator: Margaret Piper

Queensland

AIDS Medical Unit, Queensland Health

Site principal: Mark Kelly

Site coordinators: Jo Murray, Paul Negus, Peita Lee Ambrose

Clinic 87, Nambour General Hospital

Site principal: David Sowden

Site coordinators: Alan Walker, Colleen Shields, Stephen Nash

The Dolls House, Cairns Base Hospital Sexual Health Services

Site principal: Darren Russell

Site coordinators: Joanne Leamy, Chris Remington, Laura Foy

Gladstone Road Medical Centre

Site principal: David Orth

Site coordinator: David Youds

Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic

Site principal: John Chuah

Site coordinators: Tammy Schmidt, Denise Lester

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

Site principal: Anthony Allworth

Site coordinators: Natalie Gerns, Janelle Zillman, Holly Asher

South Australia

Flinders Medical Centre

Site principal: Mark Boyd

Site coordinator: Robyn Gilligan

O'Brien Street Practice/The Care and Prevention Programme, Adelaide University

Site principals: Gary Rogers, William Donohue

Site coordinators: Michael Curry, Andrew Lohmeyer, Joy Oddy, Jillian Thompson

Royal Adelaide Hospital

Site principal: David Shaw

Site coordinator: Lyndal Daly

Victoria

Carlton Clinic

Site principals: Richard Moore, Jonathan Anderson
Site coordinators: Kaye Lowe, Paul Cortissos

Clinical Research Section, Infectious Diseases Unit, The Alfred Hospital

Site principal: Jennifer Hoy
Site coordinators: Janine Roney, Cath Magness,
Sally Price, Rachel Liddle, Melissa Bryant

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Tim Read
Site coordinators: Julie Silvers, Helen Kent

Middle Park Clinic

Site principal: Ian Chenoweth
Site coordinator: Helen Wood

Northcote Clinic

Site principal: Nicholas Medland
Site coordinator: Helen Wood

Prahran Market Clinic

Site principal: Norman Roth
Site coordinator: Helen Wood

Royal Melbourne Hospital

Site principal: Alan Street
Site coordinator: Janine Roney

The Centre Clinic

Site principal: Nicholas Medland
Site coordinator: Helen Wood

Western Australia

Fremantle Hospital

Site principal: John Dyer
Site coordinators: Jacqueline Kerth, Nataasha Lethbridge,
Samantha Libertino

Royal Perth Hospital

Site principal: Martyn French
Site coordinators: Esther Edward, Claire Forsdyke,
Allison Cain, Jenny Skett

New Zealand sites

Christchurch Hospital

Site principal: Alan Pithie

Waikato Hospital

Site principal: Graham Mills
Site coordinator: Christine Tuffery

Wellington Hospital

Site principal: Tim Blackmore
Site coordinator: Jennifer Masters



David Courtney-Rodgers, Simone Jacoby, Allison Humphries,
Nisha Seneviratne, Hila Haskelberg, Carlo Dazo

HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program

The HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program (HEPP) conducts research into the transmission and prevention of HIV and sexually transmissible infections (STIs), and work on the natural history of HIV.



Andrew Grulich

The main focus of work on the natural history of HIV infection is on the development of cancer in immune deficient individuals. Scientists in HEPP conduct a range of work on the intersection of infection, immunity and cancer to inform our knowledge of the

types of cancer that might be expected to occur at increased rates in people with HIV. In 2007, we published a meta-analysis comparing cancer rates in people with HIV to transplant recipients in the *Lancet*. Two striking findings of this work were that the range of increased cancers was broader than previously appreciated, and that the patterns of increased risk were strikingly similar between the two populations. This strongly suggests that the increases in cancer risk are caused by immune deficiency, rather than by lifestyle-related cancer risk factors. In transplant recipients, our analyses showed for the first time that squamous cell cancer of the conjunctiva, an uncommon cancer known to occur at increased rates in people with HIV, also occurred at increased rates in transplant recipients.

In 2007, active follow up of the Health in Men (HiM) and Positive Health (pH) studies was completed as planned. These studies, conducted in collaboration with the National Centre in HIV Social Research and community partners, continue to provide valuable information about gay men's sexual health. Data published from the study demonstrated that a substantial proportion of anal STIs were transmitted through non-intercourse anal sexual behaviours. The important implication of this is that all homosexual men, not just those who report unprotected anal intercourse, should receive screening for anal STIs. These findings were incorporated into screening guidelines and disseminated to doctors. The study also demonstrated that anal and genital warts were very common, and also commonly transmitted through non-intercourse sexual behaviour. All STIs were substantially more common in HIV positive than HIV negative men, emphasising the need for frequent screening of men in HIV care. Data on circumcision and HIV risk were presented at international conferences in Sydney and Seattle, USA.

These data showed that overall, circumcision was not associated with a reduced risk of HIV infection. Annual linkage of the Health in Men study database with the national HIV database will allow the tracking of HIV incidence of this cohort for years to come. Data on the uptake of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis in eastern Australian States published in 2007 showed that this intervention is likely to have had a relatively small public health impact on HIV transmission rates in Australia. Prescription remained highly targeted towards the highest risk exposures.

In 2007, STI research, led by Professor Basil Donovan, was expanded within HEPP. Projects undertaken included work on the effect of prostitution laws on the health of sexworkers, a description of the sexual health of Australian prisoners, a cohort study of women with chlamydia, enhanced surveillance of chlamydia, and planning for a national sentinel surveillance system for genital warts.

A safety trial was completed during 2007 of an agent that could potentially be used as a microbicide for HIV prevention, representing NCHECR's first involvement in a randomised trial of a biomedical agent for prevention other than a candidate vaccine. The trial was conducted in Melbourne and involved treating volunteer men with the active product or placebo for seven days.

Andrew Grulich, Head of the HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program, has a supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

HIV transmission and prevention research

HIV vaccine preparedness cohort study (Health in Men study)

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

Status: Of 1,427 men enrolled in the study, 416 men were interviewed and tested for HIV during 2007. Active follow up in the study was concluded at end of June 2007 as planned. Data analysis and reporting continued throughout the year.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

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

Funding: NHMRC; NSW Health Department; Becton Dickinson Pty Ltd

Interaction between sexually transmissible infections and HIV infection in the HIM (Health in Men) study

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

Status: More than 90% of enrolled HIM participants consented to sexual health screening, including tests for gonorrhoea and chlamydia, as well as herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV1) and herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV2). Active follow up in the study was concluded at end of June 2007 as planned.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin, Basil Donovan, David Templeton (PhD student)

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

Funding: NHMRC; NSW Health Department; Becton Dickinson Pty Ltd; GlaxoSmithKline Australia



Back row: Patrick McGrath, Brian Acraman, Jack Bradley
Front: Garrett Prestage, Harry Smith

Circumcision and sexually transmissible infections and HIV infection in the HIM (Health in Men) study

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

Status: All 1,427 men enrolled in the study had been previously asked about their circumcision status, and in 2007 416 were tested for HIV. Active follow up in the study was concluded at end of June 2007 as planned.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin, Basil Donovan, David Templeton (PhD student)

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

Funding: NHMRC; NSW Health Department; Becton Dickinson Pty Ltd; GlaxoSmithKline Australia

Post-exposure prophylaxis and HIV infection in the HIM (Health in Men) study

A cohort study to examine the use of non-occupational prophylaxis against HIV, and its association with future HIV seroconversion among initially HIV-negative homosexual men.

Status: All men under follow up in the study were asked about their use of post-exposure prophylaxis during the annual interviews for 2007. Active follow up in the study was concluded at end of June 2007 as planned.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin, Mary Poynten

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

Funding: NHMRC; NSW Health Department

Behavioural risk factors for HIV infection in the HIM (Health in Men) study

A cohort study to examine behavioural risk factors for HIV infection among initially HIV-negative homosexual men.

Status: Of 1,427 men enrolled in the study, 416 were interviewed about their sexual risk behaviours during 2007. Active follow up in the study was concluded at end of June 2007 as planned.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

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

Funding: NHMRC; NSW Health Department

Risk factors for HIV seroconversion

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

Status: During 2007, a revised version of the study questionnaire was launched to permit online enrolment. The study was re-launched in Queensland, and 13 men with recent primary HIV infection were enrolled. Ethics permission was obtained for the new version of the study and to enable its continuation in other States.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

Collaborators: National Centre in HIV Social Research; Queensland Health; Queensland Association of Healthy Communities; Queensland Positive People

Funding: Queensland Health

Periodic surveys of HIV risk behaviour

A study of sexual risk behaviour, HIV and STI testing, and illicit drug use among gay men in Australia.

Status: In 2007, 7,389 surveys were completed in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Cairns and Adelaide.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

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

Funding: State and Territory Health Departments

Demographic, socio-economic and behavioural risk factors for AIDS in the HAART era: a pilot study

A cross sectional analytic study of new AIDS diagnoses in NSW between 1 January 2003 and 31 December 2005, designed to assess demographic, socio-economic and behavioural risk factors for AIDS.

Status: Data collection and analysis complete. Study results were reported to NSW Health Department in late 2007.

Personnel: Marianne Jauncey, Ann McDonald, Melanie Middleton, Andrew Grulich

Collaborator: Communicable Diseases Branch, NSW Health Department

Funding: NSW Health Department

Group sex study

A study to investigate the motivations and circumstances of group sex behaviour among gay men, particularly those behaviours that may contribute to HIV transmission.

Status: In 2007, 587 men in NSW completed the study questionnaire and eight men were interviewed in depth. Collaborators were identified to extend the study to Victoria and Queensland in 2008.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage

Collaborators: The University of Sydney; AIDS Council of New South Wales

Funding: NSW Health Department

Assessment of HIV incidence and HIV risk behaviours among clients seeking HIV testing at the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre Anonymous Clinic, Bangkok, Thailand

This study determines HIV incidence and risk factors for HIV infection and identifies populations at risk, using a self-completed questionnaire survey and an HIV antibody and BED test conducted among attendees of the Thai Red Cross anonymous HIV testing clinic.

Status: Study commenced 2005. Recruitment and data collection completed 2006. Data analyses completed 2007.

Site: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre

Enrolled/target: 499/500

Personnel: Iona Millwood, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre; University of California, San Francisco

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Law and sexworker health (LASH)

A study designed to determine the relationship between prostitution laws and their policing, and the health and welfare of sexworkers.

Status: Data collection completed, and analysis commenced.

Personnel: Basil Donovan, Chris Harcourt, Jody O'Connor, Handan Wand, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Faculty of Law, UNSW; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Fremantle Sexual Health Centre; Microbiology Department, Royal Hospital for Women

Funding: NHMRC

Health and sexual health knowledge in the unregulated sector of the Victorian sex industry

A study designed to determine the drivers of the unregulated sex industry in Victoria.

Status: Data collection and analyses complete, and report delivered to Department of Human Services, Melbourne.

Personnel: Basil Donovan, Chris Harcourt, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Microbiology Department, Royal Hospital for Women; School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne

Funding: Department of Human Services, Melbourne

The sexual behaviour and sexual health of Australian prisoners

This study is designed to describe sexual health of Australian prisoners, including their knowledge, attitudes and behaviour in relation to sexual health. It also examines the impact of condoms in New South Wales (condoms distributed since 1996), compared with Queensland (no condoms distributed). Computer-assisted telephone interviews are conducted with representative samples of both male and female prisoners in New South Wales and Queensland, as well as qualitative face-to-face interviews with inmates and ex-inmates.

Status: Data collection completed in NSW, and ongoing in Queensland.

Personnel: Basil Donovan

Collaborators: Justice Health; National Centre in HIV Social Research; School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW

Funding: NHMRC

Chlamydia incidence and reinfection study (CIRIS)

A cohort study designed to determine the prevalence and incidence of chlamydia in a representative sample of 1,400 young Australian women. Prompted by SMS, each woman self-collects a vaginal swab every three months and posts it to the Melbourne laboratory, along with a brief behavioural questionnaire.

Status: Recruitment commenced May 2007.

Personnel: Basil Donovan

Collaborators: School of Population Health, UNSW; Department of General Practice, The University of Melbourne; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Canberra Sexual Health Centre; Sydney Sexual Health Centre; Microbiology Department, Royal Women's Hospital.
Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

A longitudinal study of bacterial vaginosis and *Mycoplasma genitalium* in young Australian women

A cohort study of the prevalence, incidence and risk factors for bacterial vaginosis and *Mycoplasma genitalium* in young Australian women.

Status: Over 500 women were recruited to the end of 2007.

Personnel: Basil Donovan

Collaborators: Microbiology Department, Royal Women's Hospital; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Sydney Sexual Health Centre; School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne

Funding: NHMRC

Young women's health study

A pilot longitudinal study of the health of young women in Cambodia who report exchange of sex for money.

Status: Recruitment and six months follow up completed.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 160/100

Personnel: John Kaldor

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; Combined Women's Development Association; University of California, San Francisco

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

HIV prevention trials

HIV incidence and risk factors among people attending HIV voluntary counselling and testing services in Bangkok, Thailand

This study involves collection and analysis of demographic and behavioural data among clients of an HIV counselling and testing centre in Phnom Penh.

Status: Study analyses completed.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 406/1,000

Personnel: John Kaldor

Collaborators: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre; University of California, San Francisco; Philip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Willingness to participate in prevention research survey (Thailand)

This study measures willingness to participate in prevention trials using a cross sectional survey conducted in selected population groups at risk of HIV infection.

Status: Study commenced 2005. Recruitment and data collection completed 2006. Data analyses completed 2007.

Site: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre

Enrolled/target: 806/800

Personnel: Iona Millwood, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre; University of California, San Francisco; Philip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Community participatory activities in preparation for HIV prevention trials in women in Thailand

This study is designed to provide a framework for community discussion of HIV prevention methods and research in Thailand.

Status: The Thai Red Cross Community Advisory Board was convened in 2006, and monthly meetings were held throughout 2007.

Site: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre

Personnel: Iona Millwood, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre; University of California, San Francisco

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Clinical development program to evaluate the safety and acceptability of the candidate vaginal microbicide SPL7013 (VMDC)

A series of studies under the VivaGel™ Microbicide Development Consortium (VMDC) program designed to comprehensively evaluate the clinical safety of 3% SPL7013 gel (VivaGel™). Topical microbicides such as VivaGel™ are products that are designed to prevent the sexual transmission of HIV and other pathogens.

Status: Male tolerance study commenced 2006. Recruitment, data collection and data analyses completed 2007.

Sites: Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Enrolled/target: 37/36

Personnel: Mary Poynten, Matthew Law, Lisa Maher, Iona Millwood, Handan Wand, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Starpharma Pty Limited; Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Clinical studies to evaluate the pharmacokinetics and safety of oral tenofovir and tenofovir/emtricitabine among HIV-negative Thai women

Two clinical studies designed to evaluate first, the pharmacokinetics and second, the safety of oral tenofovir and tenofovir/emtricitabine among HIV-negative Thai women. Use of antiretrovirals in HIV-negative individuals to prevent HIV transmission is also known as “pre-exposure chemoprophylaxis”.

Status: Community consultation took place, and study protocols were developed. A grant application was submitted for full study funding to continue the study beyond the one year planning grant awarded in 2006.

Site: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre

Personnel: Louise Causer, Iona Millwood, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre; University of San Francisco; University of Radboud, The Netherlands

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Normal range study

This study assesses normal ranges of key haematological and biochemical markers in healthy blood donors in Cambodia to act as a reference for safety studies.

Status: Study analyses completed.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 219/200

Personnel: John Kaldor

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

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

HIV incidence and risk factors among people attending HIV voluntary counselling and testing services in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

This study involves collection and analysis of demographic and behavioural data among clients of an HIV counselling and testing centre in Phnom Penh.

Status: Study analyses completed.

Sites: 1

Enrolled/target: 1,519/2,200

Personnel: John Kaldor

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; University of California, San Francisco; Philip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

HIV natural history research

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: Preliminary data analyses continued.

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

Collaborators: Dorevitch Pathology - Mayne Health; Sexually Transmitted Infections Research Centre; St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Cytoc Corporation Australia Pty Ltd

Funding: UNSW

Cancer in people with long standing HIV infection

A data linkage study examining rates and risk factors for cancer in people with HIV. A particular focus of the study is to examine rates of cancer in those with long-term mild immune deficiency.

Status: An extract from the HIV and AIDS registries was linked with the National Cancer Statistics Clearing House by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. National approval was obtained for the release of organ subsite- and morphology-specific population cancer rates.

Personnel: Claire Vajdic, Marina van Leeuwen

Collaborators: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; AHOD investigators (see *Biostatistics and Databases Program*)

A meta-analysis of cancer rates in people with HIV and in transplant recipients

Data linkage studies examining rates of risk factors for cancer in immune deficient populations.

Status: Analysis and reporting completed in 2007.

Personnel: Claire Vajdic, Marina van Leeuwen, Michael Falster

NSW lymphoma case-control study

A population-based case-control study examining the environmental, occupational, genetic, immunological and infectious risk factors for non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) in people without HIV.

Status: Analysis and reporting of risk of NHL associated with polymorphisms of cytokine genes, DNA repair and vitamin D receptor genes was undertaken.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Claire Vajdic

Collaborators: St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; The University of Sydney; Monash University; US National Institutes of Health

International pooled analysis of immune risk factors for lymphoma

A pooled analysis of case-control studies of immune risk factors for lymphoma.

Status: All twelve member studies sent data on a pooled total of 12,982 cases and 16,441 controls, and results on auto-immune disease as a risk factor for non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) were reported. Analyses on the association between atopic disease, birth order, and infectious conditions and NHL risk were ongoing.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Claire Vajdic, Michael Falster

Collaborators: University of Southern California; German Cancer Research Centre; Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwest University; Centre for Study and Prevention of Cancer; Aviano Cancer Centre; Catalan Institute of Oncology; University of California, San Francisco; David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles; University of York; British Columbia Cancer Registry; School of Medicine, Yale University

Funding: Leukaemia Foundation of Australia

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: Analysis of risk factors for specific cancers continued.

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

Cancer in primary immune deficiency

A project to describe the incidence of malignancies in people with primary (congenital) immune deficiencies and to compare this with the incidence of malignancy in people with HIV/AIDS and in those with organ transplants.

Status: Ethics approvals were obtained.

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

Collaborator: Australian Primary Immunodeficiency Disease Register, The University of Sydney

Funding: NHMRC fellowship

Positive Health Study

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

Status: In 2007, 241 HIV-positive people were interviewed. In total, 160 consented to be tested for hepatitis A and B and syphilis, and for gonorrhoea and chlamydia in the urine, throat and anus. The study was concluded at the end of June 2007 as planned.

Personnel: Garrett Prestage

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; Faculty of Medicine, UNSW

Incidence and prevalence of chlamydia and prevalence of lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) serovars in the Positive Health and Health in Men (HIM) studies

A substudy of the Positive Health study to determine whether some study participants may be infected with chlamydia serovars L1-L3, the causative organism of LGV.

Status: Specimens which tested positive for rectal chlamydia were stored and tested for LGV.

Personnel: Andrew Grulich, Basil Donovan, Garrett Prestage, Jeff Jin

Collaborators: Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; National Centre in HIV Social Research; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS

Funding: NHMRC



Back row: Melanie Middleton, Andrew Grulich, Michael Falster, Basil Donovan

Front: Louise Causer, Ann McDonald, Iona Millwood, Claire Vajdic

Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program

2007 was another busy year for the Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program (VHCRP) with ongoing recruitment into our two major clinical trials, CHARIOT and ATAHC. Several new initiatives were commenced and plans to extend the HIV/hepatitis B cohort study to Thailand were completed.



Greg Dore

By early 2007, follow-up had been completed in the TICO trial, a randomised controlled trial examining the safety and efficacy of tenofovir for HIV/hepatitis B co-infection, recruiting through HIV-NAT, Bangkok. This is the Centre's first hepatitis therapeutic trial to complete

follow-up. VHCRP was awarded a US National Institutes of Health (NIH) supplemental grant to enrol all TICO patients into the existing Australian-US HIV/hepatitis B cohort (COLD), providing the opportunity for continued follow-up.

CHARIOT 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. Recruitment into the CHARIOT trial was completed in January 2007 with a total of 896 patients enrolled, 702 from Australia, 29 from New Zealand, and the remaining 165 from Thailand, Mexico and Canada. The week 12 interim efficacy analysis was completed and presented as an oral presentation at the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease (AASLD) Liver Meeting 2007 in Boston, USA. A viral kinetics and pharmacokinetics sub-study commenced in late 2006 at five sites, and enrolled 15 patients prior to the CHARIOT recruitment closure in February 2007.

The Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C (ATAHC) is a five year NIH-funded study examining the safety and efficacy of pegylated interferon monotherapy and natural history in acute and newly acquired hepatitis C. Enrolment into the study was closed during 2007 with a total 168 patients recruited, making it the largest study to date that examines acute and newly acquired hepatitis C therapeutic strategies among a largely injecting drug user study population. A planned interim efficacy analysis was completed in April 2007, with the results presented as a poster presentation at the AASLD Liver Meeting 2007.

VHCRP were part of a collaborative group awarded a A\$2.7 million UNSW Strategic Research Grant to establish the UNSW Hepatitis C Virus Vaccine Initiative. The initiative is led by Professor Andrew Lloyd (School of Medical Sciences, UNSW), Associate Professor Greg Dore and Associate Professor Lisa Maher and involves collaboration with the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, National Centre in HIV Social Research, School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, UNSW and Prince of Wales Hospital.

VHCRP also received Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and NSW Health Department grants to establish national and NSW-based projects to enhance hepatitis C uptake and outcomes among people receiving opiate pharmacotherapy. These projects include education and training (in collaboration with the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine), qualitative and quantitative research components, and evaluation of hepatitis C clinical service delivery in the opiate pharmacotherapy setting.

Greg Dore, Head of the Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program, has a supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

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, and was completed November 2007.

Sites: 20 sites

Enrolled/target: 168/240

Personnel: Barbara Yeung, Pip Marks, Brian Acraman, Patrick McGrath, Gail Matthews, John Kaldor, Greg Dore

Collaborators: 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 Users League (AIVL); Australian network of primary care and hospital-based hepatitis clinics

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, and was completed January 2007.

Sites: 51 (33 Australia, 3 New Zealand, 5 Canada, 3 Thailand, 4 Argentina, 3 Mexico)

Enrolled/target: 896 (702 Australia, 29 New Zealand, 165 internationally)/816

Personnel: Candace Carter, Natalie Espinosa, Ineke Shaw, Alexa Gillman, Oscar-Hazel Donaldson, Pip Marks, Gail Matthews, Jennifer Moore, Jacinta Perram, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Stuart Roberts, The Alfred Hospital; Australian and international network of hospital-based liver and hepatitis clinics

Funding: Roche Products Pty Ltd

Tenofovir in HIV/hepatitis B co-infection (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 co-infection, and hepatitis B mono-infection.

Status: Recruitment opened February 2004 (Australia), and August 2004 (Thailand). Recruitment for HIV/hepatitis completed January 2006. Follow-up completed January 2007.

Sites: 5 (4 Australia; 1 Thailand)

Enrolled/target: 36/36 for HIV/hepatitis B; 3/15 for hepatitis B

Personnel: Natalie Espinosa, Pip Marks, Barbara Yeung, Chris Duncombe, Gail Matthews, David Cooper, Greg Dore

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

Funding: Gilead Sciences

UNSW Hepatitis C Virus Vaccine Initiative: Natural history and clinical trials

The UNSW Hepatitis C Vaccine Initiative is a collaborative program of research which aims to establish a comprehensive community, clinical and laboratory framework for candidate hepatitis C vaccine evaluation. The natural history and clinical trials arm will establish a hepatitis C incident case cohort (HITS-i), with subjects drawn from prison (HITS-p) and community (HITS-c) -based hepatitis C seronegative cohorts, and from St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. HITS-i will examine the time-course and immunovirological predictors of hepatitis C clearance. Hepatitis C modelling studies will examine the impact of potential hepatitis C vaccines at a population level based on various scenarios of efficacy and uptake. A potential clinical trial design

for a phase II/III evaluation of a candidate hepatitis C vaccine will also be developed based on parameters of hepatitis C incidence, viral clearance, and early hepatitis C treatment uptake.

Status: HITS-i study in development.

Personnel: Deborah Adrian, Jarliene Enriquez, Greg Dore, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: AIDS Council of New South Wales; Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League; Hepatitis Australia; Hepatitis C Council of NSW; Inflammatory Diseases Research Unit, School of Medical Studies, UNSW; Kirkeaton Road Centre; National Centre in HIV Social Research; National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; NSW Community Restorative Centre; NSW Users and AIDS Association; School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, UNSW

Funding: UNSW Strategic Research Grant

Enhancing Treatment of Hepatitis C in Opiate Substitution Settings (ETHOS)

A series of research projects designed to examine client and practitioner-based barriers to hepatitis C treatment and treatment uptake and outcomes within opiate pharmacotherapy settings: qualitative and quantitative surveys of barriers to hepatitis C treatment among opiate pharmacotherapy clients; qualitative and quantitative surveys of barriers to hepatitis C treatment among opiate pharmacotherapy prescribers and allied health care professionals; collaborative cohort of opiate pharmacotherapy clients being assessed for hepatitis C treatment (ETHOS cohort).

Status: In planning phase.

Target (ETHOS cohort): 300

Personnel: Marianne Jauncey, Jason Grebely, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Drug and Alcohol Services, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital; Faculty of Medicine, The University of Sydney; National Centre in HIV Social Research

Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing; NSW Health Department

Natural history of HIV/hepatitis B co-infection (COLD)

A prospective cohort of people with HIV/hepatitis B co-infection 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: Recruitment completed in Australia and the US into a prospective cohort of HIV/hepatitis co-infection. Cohort expanded to Thailand where recruitment is ongoing.

Enrolled/target: 168/200

Sites: 5 (3 Australia, 1 United States, 1 Thailand)

Personnel: Gail Matthews, Amanda Erratt, Pip Marks

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

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Hepatitis B epidemiology and disease burden in Vietnam and Australia

This study undertakes estimates and projections of hepatitis B-related liver cancer in Vietnam, and among Asia-Pacific born Australian residents.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Van Thi Thuy Nguyen (PhD student)

Collaborator: School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW

Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program (VHCRP) clinical trials network (Australian sites)

Each site listed below has recruited and followed at least one subject in a VHCRP research protocol during 2007.

Australian Capital Territory

Canberra Hospital

Site principal: Geoff Farrell

Site coordinator: Anne Blunn

New South Wales

407 Doctors

Site principal: David Baker

Site coordinators: Robyn Vale, Claire Johnson

Albion Street Centre

Site principal: George Marinos

Site coordinators: Jason Gao, Shona Fletcher

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital

Site principal: Chris Meredith

Site coordinator: Sandra Bluncoski

Concord Hospital

Site principal: Alice Lee

Site coordinator: Vivienne Schiavone

Holdsworth House General Practice

Site principal: Mark Bloch

Site coordinator: Shikha Agrawal

Immunology B Ambulatory Care Clinic, St Vincent's Hospital

Site principal: Greg Dore

Site coordinators: Rebecca Hickey, Zoe Potgieter,

Dianne How Chow

John Hunter Hospital

Site principals: Jon Watson, Brian Hughes

Site coordinators: Tracey Jones, Nadine Leembruggen

Kirketon Road Centre

Site principal: Ingrid van Beek

Site coordinator: Anna Doab

Lismore Liver Clinic

Site principal: Mark Cornwell

Site coordinator: Wendy Evans

Liverpool Hospital

Site principal: Miriam Levy

Site coordinator: Anne Glass

Liverpool Sexual Health Clinic

Site principal: John Quin

Site coordinator: Pat Walker

Nepean Hospital

Site principals: Martin Weltman, Nghi Phung

Site coordinator: Vince Fragomeli

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Site principals: Geoff McCaughan, Paul Haber

Site coordinator: Sue Mason

Taylor Square Private Clinic

Site principal: Neil Bodsworth

Site coordinator: Isabel Prone

Waratah Clinic, St George Hospital

Site principal: John Freiman

Site coordinators: Suzanne Polis, Robyn Dever

Westmead Hospital

Site principal: Jacob George

Site coordinators: Jasmin Canete, SengKee Teo

Wollongong Hospital

Site principal: Jenny McDonald

Site coordinator: Pat Bindley

Queensland

Greenslopes Hospital

Site principal: Darrell Crawford

Site coordinator: Julie Roggeveen

Nambour Hospital

Site principal: Don Walker

Site coordinator: Bronwyn Rynne

Princess Alexandra Hospital

Site principal: Darrell Crawford

Site coordinators: Fiona Giddens, Julie Roggeveen

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

Site principal: Barbara Leggett

Site coordinator: Deb D'Arcy

Townsville Hospital

Site principal: John Masson

Site coordinator: Sharon Cooke

South Australia

Flinders Medical Centre

Site principals: John Ring, Alex Rodgers

Site coordinator: Rosalie Altus

Royal Adelaide Hospital

Site principals: Hugh Harley, David Shaw

Site coordinators: Megan Phelps, Catherine Ferguson

Victoria

Austin Hospital

Site principal: Peter Angus

Site coordinators: Lisa Thompson, Brenda Morales

Box Hill Hospital

Site principal: Peter Gibson

Site coordinators: Sarah Chivers, Caroline Day

Frankston Hospital

Site principal: David Badov

Site coordinator: Rita Coffey

Geelong Hospital

Site principal: Damian Dowling

Site coordinator: Margaret Wardrop

HealthWorks (referral site)

Site principal: Fran Branwell

Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health

Site principal: Margaret Hellard

Site coordinators: Oanh Nguyen, Sally von Bibra, Clare Robertson

Monash Medical Centre

Site principal: Bill Sievert

Site coordinators: Sherryne Warner, Patricia Anderson

Royal Melbourne Hospital

Site principal: Joe Sasadeusz

Site coordinators: Maxine Giourouki, Craig Scholten, Jacqui Brown, Joanne Patterson

St Vincent's Hospital

Site principal: Paul Desmond

Site coordinators: Danielle Croall, Nicole Prendergast

The Alfred Hospital

Site principals: Margaret Hellard, Sharon Lewin, Stuart Roberts

Site coordinators: Oanh Nguyen, Sally von Bibra, Clare Robertson, Miniver Siah

Western Hospital

Site principal: Ian Kronborg

Site coordinator: Marian Croft

Western Australia

Fremantle Hospital

Site principal: Lindsay Mollison

Site coordinators: Lynette Booth, Gim Andrews

Royal Perth Hospital

Site principal: Wendy Cheng

Site coordinator: Saroj Nazareth

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

Site principal: Gary Jefferies

Site coordinator: Joanne Young



Back row: Patrick McGrath, Ineke Shaw, Jennifer Moore, Brian Acraman, Gail Matthews, Alexa Gillman, Greg Dore
Middle row: Jacinta Perram, Barbara Yeung, Natalie Espinosa, Oscar-Hazel Donaldson
Front: Pip Marks, Marianne Jauncey, Amanda Erratt

Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program

During 2007 the Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program (VHEPP) submitted its fourth and final report on the evaluation of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) to the NSW Health Department. This body of work informed the subsequent decision of the NSW Government to extend the trial of the MSIC for a further four years (2007 to 2011). The two reports finalised in 2007 presented data on MSIC client referral and health issues, service delivery data and overdose-related events occurring on-site, as well as analyses of opioid-related overdose deaths, ambulance attendances and emergency department presentations in the local area.



Lisa Maher

The Indigenous Resilience Project developed a participatory action research training workshop and manual to be rolled out to collaborating Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service partners in 2008. Data collection focusing on sexually transmitted infection/

blood-borne virus pathology commenced at one site and the International Steering Committee for the project met in Auckland, New Zealand in October.

The year also saw the commencement of a program of preparedness studies for clinical trials of candidate hepatitis C vaccines as part of the UNSW Vaccine Initiative, a multi-disciplinary project to establish a clinical and laboratory framework for candidate hepatitis C vaccine evaluation. In collaboration with the National Centre for HIV Social Research, community consultation commenced in the form of a series of focus groups with affected communities and key stakeholders. Towards the end of 2007 preparatory work began on the establishment of a community-based cohort of antibody hepatitis C negative people who inject drugs.

VHEPP continued to expand during 2007, with several new staff joining the Program. During 2007 VHEPP staff submitted 38 papers; 19 of which were published with nine in press and ten under review. Staff also submitted three book chapters and completed six major reports. A total of ten grant applications were submitted in 2007; six of which were successful.

Lisa Maher, Head of the Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program, has a supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that she takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

Evaluation of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC)

Evaluation of the extension of the MSIC trial (Phase II, 2002-2007) involving primary and secondary data collection including operation and service delivery data, local resident and business surveys, external indicator data and an observational cohort study of injecting drug users.

Status: Study completed.

Personnel: Allison Salmon, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre; NSW Health Department; Hunter Valley Research Foundation

Funding: NSW Health Department

Ethno-epidemiology of psychostimulant-related harms in Australia

Multi-disciplinary research which aims to identify factors underlying the rising prevalence of psychostimulant use in Australia and implications for public health. Conducted in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth, the study utilises ethnographic and epidemiological research methods and techniques to access psychostimulant users in a range of settings.

Status: Ethnographic fieldwork, including in-depth interviews, continued in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth during 2007 and cross-sectional surveys were conducted in Melbourne and Perth. Integrative modelling and data analysis are ongoing.

Personnel: Susan Hudson (PhD student), Lisa Maher

Collaborators: National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University; Monash University; Australian National University

Funding: NHMRC



Resilience Project Steering Committee during a meeting held in Sydney in August 2007

The role of resiliency in responding to blood-borne viral and sexually transmitted infections in Indigenous communities

A collaborative project between Australia, Canada and New Zealand to examine resilience to blood-borne viruses (BBVs) and sexually transmissible infections (STIs) in Indigenous communities. With a focus on adolescents and young adults in urban settings, the Australian component of the study seeks to identify factors that protect against acquisition of BBV/STI and promote access to prevention and treatment, and provide capacity building opportunities for Indigenous researchers and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: David Brockman, Julie Mooney-Somers, Lisa Maher, John Kaldor

Collaborators: Townsville Aboriginal and Islanders Health Service Ltd; The Aboriginal Medical Service Coop Ltd, Redfern; Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, Perth; Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, Health Canada; Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network; University of Ottawa; Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, University of Auckland; Auckland University of Technology; University of Otago Medical School

Funding: Tripartite Cooperation Agreement between Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR); National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC); Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC).

Prevention and management of hepatitis C infection among Indo-Chinese injecting drug users

Ethnographic research exploring Indo-Chinese injecting drug users' explanatory models of hepatitis C prevention and management, and their influence on help-seeking behaviour and service utilisation. The study also includes a trial of a brief intervention (consisting of culturally tailored information about hepatitis C treatment and referral to a tertiary liver clinic) to identify barriers and facilitators of treatment access and uptake in this group.

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Heidi Coupland, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: Cambodian-Australian Welfare Council of NSW; Vietnamese Community in Australia; Lao Workers' Network; Open Family; NSW Users and AIDS Association; Multicultural HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Service

Funding: NSW Health Department; NHMRC Post-Graduate Research Scholarship; Faculty of Medicine, UNSW

Injecting drug users' perceptions and experiences of clinical trials

This study examines current injecting drug users' perceptions, understandings and experiences of, and willingness to participate in, clinical trials.

Status: Data collection completed in 2007. Data analysis is ongoing.

Personnel: Anna Doab, Libby Topp, Greg Dore, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: Langton Centre; National Drug and Alcohol Centre, South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service, The University of Sydney

Funding: UNSW

Injecting-related injuries and disease among injecting drug users in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales

This study assesses prevalence of and risk factors for injecting-related injuries and diseases among injecting drug users recruited in metropolitan and regional sites in each State, with NCHECR responsible for the New South Wales arm.

Status: Data collection completed in 2007. Data analysis commenced.

Personnel: Libby Topp, Marianne Jauncey, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre (QADREC); Queensland Health

Funding: Queensland Health

Expansion of the "Three Ones" AIDS coordination model: Support for strengthening the capacity of prevention programs (including harm reduction) in Vietnam

A short term project designed to map HIV prevention projects in Thanh Hoa, Vietnam; analyse services, delivery mechanisms, relational supports, enabling factors and challenges to effective implementation of harm reduction at the provincial level; identify key components which could be included in a comprehensive harm reduction program model for Thanh Hoa and other provinces; and support a consultation workshop to present findings, discuss key issues and identify possible solutions for provincial HIV prevention programming.

Status: Completed.

Personnel: Jenny Iversen, Anh Pham, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: World Health Organisation; The United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; Vietnamese Ministry of Health

Funding: World Health Organisation; The United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS

Prevalence and predictors of injecting-related injuries and disease among injecting drug users attending the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC)

Injecting-related injuries and disease (IRID) have been identified as contributing to morbidity and mortality associated with injecting drug use (IDU). This study examines prevalence and predictors of IRID among IDUs attending the Sydney MSIC.

Status: Study completed.

Personnel: Allison Salmon, Marianne Jauncey, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre; Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health



Back row: Anna Doab, Heidi Coupland, Lisa Maher, David Brockman, Susan Hudson, Jenny Iverson, Allison Salmon
Front: Libby Topp, Rachel Deacon

UNSW Hepatitis C Vaccine Initiative: Social epidemiology and prevention studies

The UNSW Hepatitis C Vaccine Initiative is a collaborative program of research which aims to establish a comprehensive community, clinical and laboratory framework for candidate hepatitis C vaccine evaluation. The Social Epidemiology and Prevention Studies arm is designed to consult with affected communities and key stakeholders; establish a community-based cohort of people who inject drugs; determine hepatitis C incidence; characterise social and demographic characteristics; identify factors associated with acquisition of, or protection from, hepatitis C infection; assess levels of follow-up and factors associated with retention; and identify attitudes towards research and willingness to participate in candidate hepatitis C vaccine trials.

Status: Qualitative data collection commenced.

Personnel: Deborah Adrian, Jarliene Enriquez, Greg Dore, Lisa Maher

Collaborators: AIDS Council of New South Wales; Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League; Hepatitis Australia; Hepatitis C Council of NSW; Inflammatory Diseases Research Unit, School of Medical Studies, UNSW; Kirkeaton Road Centre; National Centre in HIV Social Research; National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; NSW Community Restorative Centre; NSW Users and AIDS Association; School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, UNSW

Funding: UNSW Strategic Research Grant

Biostatistics and Databases Program

During 2007, the Biostatistics and Databases Program continued to have growing activity in research in clinical observational cohort studies. The Australian HIV Observational Database (AHOD) and the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) both continued to accrue follow-up data on HIV-infected patients, with a number of peer-reviewed publications resulting from each. A retrospective survey of cancer diagnoses in TAHOD, examining cancers diagnosed in HIV-infected patients in the Asia-Pacific region was also developed during 2007. The TREAT Asia Studies to Evaluate Resistance (TASER) program began recruiting patients during 2007, both to a surveillance study assessing rates of transmitted HIV drug resistance, and to a monitoring study that will assess rates of development of drug resistance in patients receiving antiretroviral drugs. A cohort study of HIV-infected children in the Asia-Pacific region, the TREAT Asia Paediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) also commenced recruitment in late 2007, following extensive development of site databases. Finally, a web-based data collection methodology was developed for the Australian Chronic Hepatitis C Observational Study (ACHOS), with patient recruitment to begin during 2008.



Matthew Law

A continuing role of the Program is cross-program support for biostatistics and secure clinical trial databases. During 2007, the Program continued to extend its expertise in web-based database systems, with systems for the STEAL, ALTAIR, PIPET and PINT studies (see *Therapeutic and*

Vaccine Research Program) all starting development or coming on line. Database systems for adverse event reporting using MedDRA were further developed, including an application to allow viewing of multiple versions of MedDRA. The process of migrating NCHECR's national HIV and AIDS surveillance databases to more secure Oracle databases continued.

The Program was involved in a number of linkage projects during 2007. A linkage between the New South Wales prison inmates and the National Death Index revealed key insights into rates and causes of death in prisoners. Prisoners were found to be at greatly increased risk of death immediately following release from prison, with drug and violent deaths particularly raised. Projects to link the AHOD to Cancer Registry databases (in collaboration with the *HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program*) and to hospitalisation

databases were developed. Finally, a linkage of ACHOS with hospitalisation databases (in collaboration with the *Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program*) was also developed.

The Program expanded its mathematical modelling capability during 2007, with the addition of two new staff and a PhD student. A major activity was using mathematical models to investigate disparate trends in HIV diagnoses in Australia among men who have sex with men, with increasing trends in Victoria and Queensland, but flat HIV diagnoses in New South Wales. This project used both dynamic transmission models and statistical back-projection models to investigate these trends. The models suggested that the trends in HIV diagnoses accurately reflected underlying differences in HIV incidence. The models further suggested that these trends could not be explained simply by differing trends in unsafe sex, and suggested a much greater role for co-infection with another sexually transmissible infection as a co-factor than had previously been thought. The Program also finalised a report on the cost-effectiveness analysis of the NSW Health Department HIV/AIDS Program, indicating the importance and cost-effectiveness of the program in preventing and treating HIV infection. Mathematical models assessing the role of screening to interrupt chlamydia transmission were developed, indicating that realistic rates of screening of younger women for chlamydia infection could be an effective method for reducing prevalence. Methodological work in infectious disease modelling was performed, most notably leading to the development of software to perform wide ranging sensitivity analyses. Finally, AusAID funding was awarded to the Program during 2007 to develop mathematical models of HIV transmission and appropriate software, to allow modelling of HIV epidemics in Indonesia, Cambodia and Papua New Guinea.

Matthew Law, Head of the Biostatistics and Program, has a supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

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: 2,493 patients continued to be followed up during 2007.

Personnel: Kathleen Glenday, Kathy Petoumenos, Matthew Law

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

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 combines data from 11 cohorts, including 23,468 patients. Australia contributes 706 patients from the Australian HIV Observational Database. Follow up continued through 2007.

Personnel: Kathleen Glenday, Kathy Petoumenos, Matthew Law

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

Funding: European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (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

Personnel: Kathleen Glenday, 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 (TAHOD)

Observational cohort study of patients with HIV at 17 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 2007, baseline and retrospective data from some 3,500 patients from 17 sites were aggregated. It is expected that follow up will continue for up to a further four years.

Personnel: Jialun Zhou, Rebecca Oyomopito, Julian Elliott, Matthew Law, David Cooper

Collaborators: Network of 17 clinical sites at countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region

Funding: American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) via a US National Institutes of Health grant through the International Epidemiologic Databases Evaluating AIDS collaboration

TREAT Asia Quality Assurance Scheme (TAQAS)

To ensure capacity in HIV resistance testing in the Asia-Pacific region, a quality assurance scheme was implemented. Twice a year, HIV-infected blood samples are distributed to laboratories around the region, with returned HIV resistance test results compared to a consensus result.

Status: Two sets of blood samples were circulated in March and October to up to 13 laboratories. A one-day workshop evaluated results in Bangkok in September.

Personnel: Jialun Zhou, Rebecca Oyomopito, Matthew Law

Collaborators: Network of 13 laboratories; National Reference Laboratory, Melbourne; Stanford University

Funding: American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)

TREAT Asia Studies Evaluating Resistance (TASER)

There are two studies: First, a surveillance study (TASER-S) examining rates of transmitted HIV-resistance in newly diagnosed HIV-infected subjects not previously treated with antiretroviral drugs. Second, a monitoring study (TASER-M) assessing rates of developing HIV-resistance in patients starting antiretroviral treatments.

Status: Recruitment started into both studies during 2007.

Personnel: Rebecca Oyomopito, Jialun Zhou, Matthew Law

Collaborators: Network of up to 8 sites initially

Funding: American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) via a grant from the government of the Netherlands

Australian Chronic Hepatitis C Observational Study (ACHOS)

In collaboration with the Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program, ACHOS is a study of chronically infected hepatitis C patients, with observational follow-up for data on rates of treatment and outcomes following treatment.

Status: Web-based database systems were developed in 2007, and ethics approvals obtained at UNSW. Recruitment is planned to begin in 2008, with follow-up for at least two years.

Personnel: Heather Gidding, Janaki Amin, Matthew Law, Greg Dore

Collaborators: Network of up to 30 sites around Australia

Funding: State and Territory Health Departments

TREAT Asia Paediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD)

Observational cohort study of patients with HIV at 17 sites throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Demographic, clinical and treatment data are aggregated twice each year via electronic data transfer.

Status: Web-based database systems were developed in 2007, and ethics approvals obtained at UNSW. Recruitment began in late 2007, with follow-up for at least four years.

Personnel: Azar Kariminia, Janaki Amin, Matthew Law

Collaborators: Network of 8 sites initially throughout 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 2007, members of the Program actively contributed to, or analysed data from, the FLASH, STEAL, ALTAIR, PIPET, and PINT studies (see *Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program*), the ROSEY, MITOX and INITIO studies (see *Annual Reports 2002 and 2004*), as well as the Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program's ATACH and TICO studies and the HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program's LASH, VMDC and kidney transplant linkage studies. Members of the Program also contributed to national surveillance activities.

Personnel: Noorul Absar, Janaki Amin, Rossitza Chevkenova, John Murray, Rebecca Oyomopito, 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 1988 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: Study complete.

Personnel: Azar Kariminia (PhD student), Matthew Law

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

Funding: NHMRC

Mathematical modelling for improved planning of infectious disease control policy

This is an NHMRC Capacity Building Grant to develop capacity for mathematical modelling for improved planning of infectious disease control policy in Australia. A number of projects are envisaged over the five-year life of the grant. Projects at NCHECR during 2007 included mathematical models of human papillomavirus and chlamydia transmission in Australia.

Status: Study investigators held an introductory training workshop on infectious disease modelling in Canberra in March 2007, and a meeting of study investigators with invited speakers in September.

Personnel: David Regan

Collaborators: National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health; Centre for International Health; School of Population Health, Melbourne University; Victorian Infectious Diseases Service

Funding: NHMRC

Mathematical modelling of HIV transmission in men who have sex with men by State in Australia

Mathematical and statistical models were used to assess the extent to which differing trends in HIV diagnoses among MSM, with increasing trends in Victoria and Queensland but broadly flat rates in NSW, corresponded to true differences in HIV incidence. The mathematical models were used to assess which behavioural and treatment factors might be associated with trends in HIV diagnoses.

Status: Mathematical and statistical models were developed and analysed, and a report drafted for release in early 2008.

Personnel: David Wilson, Alexander Hoare, David Regan, Handan Wand, Matthew Law

Funding: NHMRC, Australian Research Council

Mathematical modelling of human papillomavirus transmission

This study involves the development of a mathematical model of human papilloma virus (HPV) transmission in Australia to assess the effect of various HPV vaccine schedules on HPV incidence and prevalence. These HPV incidence and prevalence estimates are then used as inputs into separate models of HPV disease natural history to assess the cost-effectiveness of HPV vaccine schedules on preventing cervical cancer.

Status: Analyses were completed, and results helped to support a CSL submission for public funding of their HPV vaccine.

Personnel: David Regan

Collaborator: CSL Limited

Mathematical modelling of chlamydia screening strategies

This study uses mathematical models of chlamydia transmission in Australia to assess the effectiveness of various screening strategies for reducing chlamydia prevalence.

Status: Models were developed and analyses performed and written up during 2007.

Personnel: David Regan, David Wilson

Collaborator: School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne

Funding: NHMRC

Mathematical modelling of chlamydia vaccines

This study uses mathematical models that incorporate within-host biology with sexual networks and epidemiology to explore the biological properties of vaccine candidates that will have the greatest epidemiological impact in reducing chlamydial incidence and clinical morbidities.

Status: Models were developed during 2007 for analysis in 2008.

Personnel: Richard Gray, David Wilson

Collaborator: Queensland University of Technology

Funding: Australian Research Council

Mathematical modelling of transmitted drug resistance in Thailand

This study uses mathematical transmission models to describe HIV epidemiology among numerous groups at risk of HIV infection in Thailand. It encompasses the Thai treatment plan for antiretroviral therapy and attempts to forecast the emergence of both acquired and transmitted drug resistance.

Status: Models were developed during 2007 for analysis in 2008.

Personnel: Alexander Hoare, David Wilson

Collaborator: HIV-NAT

Funding: Australian Research Council

Sampling and sensitivity analysis tools for computational modelling

This study develops software for practitioners of theoretical and computation models to perform uncertainty and sensitivity analyses with a wide variety of techniques in an easy-to-use graphics user interface package.

Status: Software was developed.

Personnel: Alexander Hoare, David Regan, David Wilson

Collaborator:

Funding: UNSW

Mathematical models to investigate the risk-benefit of antiretroviral-containing vaginal microbicides

This study develops mathematical models to predict the number of HIV drug-resistance cases emerging due to microbicides containing antiretroviral drugs. These predictions are made for phase III clinical trials and for a general population with access to the product.

Status: Analysis complete.

Personnel: David Wilson

Collaborator: University of California, Los Angeles

Funding: UNSW

Mathematical models to investigate a contact-dependent hypothesis for chlamydial development within eukaryotic cells

This study uses quantitative techniques to investigate the triggers for chlamydial particles differentiating from their replicative form to their infectious form. This study couples experimental data with statistical techniques and mathematical models.

Status: This study is ongoing as new experiments are carried out by collaborators.

Personnel: David Wilson

Collaborator: University of Maryland; Wayne State University

Funding: UNSW

NSW Impact Study

This study is to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of NSW Health HIV treatment and prevention strategies using mathematical models to estimate what HIV incidence would have been in NSW without treatment and prevention programs.

Status: Modelling results and cost-effectiveness analyses were published in a report to the NSW Health Department.

Personnel: Karina Razali, Matthew Law

Collaborator: Health Outcomes International

Funding: NSW Health Department; University of Malaya

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*) and the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD).

Status: Analyses of rates of treatment change, and predictive models of AIDS or death were developed, during 2007.

Personnel: Preeyaporn Srasuebkul (PhD student)

Collaborators: HIV-NAT; TAHOD investigators

Funding: American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)

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: David Regan

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

Diagnosis and treatment of paediatric HIV infection in a resource-limited setting

In order to develop clinical guidelines for testing children for HIV serostatus at Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea, factors associated with testing for HIV serostatus and factors associated with positivity amongst those tested are investigated using retrospective and prospective methods.

Status: Retrospective study completed. Recruitment for prospective study commenced in September 2007.

Personnel: Wari Allison (PhD student)

Collaborator: Department of Paediatrics, Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea

A clinical database of HIV-positive and exposed children attending the hospital outpatient department in a resource-limited setting

Biostatistical and epidemiological advice and support is provided in the development and maintenance of the clinical database of HIV-positive and exposed children at Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea.

Status: Data was analysed and presented at the Papua New Guinea Paediatric Society Annual Meeting in September 2007.

Personnel: Wari Allison (PhD student)

Collaborator: Department of Paediatrics, Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea

Attitudes to HIV testing amongst carers of children admitted to Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea

A series of structured interviews to assess the acceptability of voluntary counselling and testing among the carers of children admitted to hospital in Papua New Guinea.

Status: 40 semi-structured interviews were carried out between February and April 2007.

Personnel: Wari Allison (PhD student)

Collaborator: Department of Paediatrics, Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea

A survey of paediatric diagnostic, treatment and support services for HIV in the Asia-Pacific region

A survey to strengthen knowledge about the current paediatric diagnostic, treatment and support services for HIV infection in the Asia-Pacific region

Status: Surveys were distributed and returned in July, August and September 2007.

Personnel: Wari Allison (PhD student), Matthew Law

Collaborators: Australasian Society for HIV Medicine; The Alfred Hospital; TREAT Asia network



Back row: Handan Wand, Kathy Petoumenos, Rossitza Chevkenova, Rebecca Oyomopito, Noorul Absar, Jialun Zhou

Front row: David Wilson, David Regan, Matthew Law, Janaki Amin, Kathleen Glenday

Australian HIV Observational Database (AHOD) network

New South Wales

407 Doctors

Site principal: David Baker

Site coordinator: Robyn Vale

Bligh Street Clinic

Site principal: Miriam Gotowski

Site coordinators: Sharon Taylor, Lydia Stuart-Hill

Blue Mountains Sexual Health and HIV Clinic

Site principal: Eva Jackson

Holden Street Clinic

Site principal: Debbie Allen

Holdsworth House General Practice

Site principal: Mark Bloch

Site coordinators: Teo Franic, Shikha Agrawal

Illawarra Sexual Health

Site principal: Katherine Brown

Site coordinator: Nina Skobalj

Immunology B Ambulatory Care Clinic, St Vincent's Hospital

Site principals: David Cooper, Andrew Carr

Site coordinators: Mark Lacey, Karl Hesse

Lismore Sexual Health and AIDS Services (SHAIDS)

Site principal: David Smith

Site coordinator: Cherie Mincham

Livingstone Road Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Catherine O'Connor

Site coordinator: Felicia Robinson

Macquarie Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Trish Bullen

Medical and Vein Centre

Site principal: David Ellis

Nepean Sexual Health and HIV Clinic

Site principal: Tong Liang

Sydney Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Lynne Wray

Site coordinator: Heng Lu

Taylor Square Private Clinic

Site principal: Robert Finlayson

Site coordinator: Isabel Prone

Northern Territory**Communicable Disease Centre, Royal Darwin Hospital**

Site principal: Anuja Kulatunga

Site coordinator: Peter Knibbs

Queensland**AIDS Medical Unit, Queensland Health**

Site principal: Mark Kelly

Site coordinators: Paul Negus, Henry Magon

Blackall Terrace Specialist Centre

Site principal: David Sowden

Site coordinator: Alan Walker

Gladstone Road Medical Centre

Site principal: David Orth

Site coordinator: David Youds

Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic

Site principal: John Chuah

Site coordinators: Denise Lester, Wendy Fankhauser, Bridget Dickson

The Dolls House, Cairns Base Hospital Sexual Health Services

Site principal: Darren Russell

Site coordinator: Christine Remington

South Australia**Care and Prevention Programme, Adelaide University**

Site principal: William Donohue

Site coordinator: Andrew Lohmeyer

Victoria**Carlton Clinic**

Site principal: Jonathan Anderson

Site coordinator: Kaye Lowe

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Tim Read

Site coordinator: Julie Silvers

Monash Medical Centre

Site principal: Ian Woolley

Prahran Market Clinic

Site principal: Norman Roth

Site coordinator: John Nicolson

The Alfred Hospital

Site principals: Ann Mijch, Jennifer Hoy

Site coordinators: Melissa Bryant, Kerrie Watson

Western Australia**Department of Clinical Immunology, Royal Perth Hospital**

Site principal: Simon Mallal

Site coordinators: Claire Forsdyke, Sachin Bulgannawar

Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program

During 2007, the laboratory component of the Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program (IVPP) continued to act as the Australian coordinating laboratory for the natural history studies conducted through the Acute Infection Early Disease Research Program (AIEDRP), as well as for the ESPRIT, SMART and ALTAIR (see *Therapeutic Vaccine and Research Program*) studies, and assisted in the successful conduct of the STEAL and SPARTAC studies (see *Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program*). The laboratory continued to perform well in the external quality assurance program for PBMC storage run by the Immunovirology Research Network.



Anthony Kelleher

Pathogenesis work relating to antigen-specific CD4 T-cell function continued to bear fruit with new methodologies established in the laboratory resulting in the lodging of a further provisional patent, and the lodgement of a separate application for a full patent. Both

patents are based on novel assay strategies for the enumeration and evaluation of antigen specific CD4+ T-cells, and are employed to monitor immunogenicity of therapeutic vaccines in SIV-infected macaques. The previously patented methodology for identifying human Treg was developed into a commercial kit under a licensing arrangement with Becton Dickinson. Flow cytometric analysis capacity was further expanded with up grades of machinery. The combination of novel assay techniques, advanced technology and expertise allowed a complex analysis of the effects of a novel CCR5 inhibitor, P04112, on lymphocyte function and trafficking as a formal substudy to phase 1 trial run by the Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program. The quality of this work in T-cell immunology was recognised by the awarding of several oral presentations at international conferences. A large contract was awarded to the laboratory for the conduct of immunogenicity assays for a phase II trial of a novel flu vaccine.

The laboratory's ability to perform molecular techniques was enhanced with the acquisition of a state of the art real time PCR machine and spectrophotometer. This equipment will aid in the development of siRNA technology which was progressed further during 2007 with the successful identification of targets for transcriptional gene silencing within the SIV promoter regions, and further elucidation of the mechanism of action of these

potentially powerful therapeutic strategies. Also, techniques for the characterisation of neutralising antibodies were established in the laboratory.

IVPP staff made preparatory visits to the Vaccine and Immunovirology Laboratory at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok finalising the validation of immunogenicity assays to be used in the conduct of the phase I prime-boost trial which commenced in 2007 (see *Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program*).

An NHMRC Project Grant entitled "Delineation of establishment and maintenance of the T-cell reservoirs of HIV-1 infection" was awarded in 2007 to commence in 2008. This grant will allow exploration and understanding of the establishment of the viral reservoirs early in HIV infection. This work will complement the siRNA work which commenced in 2007, as well as the new PINT study which considers the effect of integrase inhibitors and viral reservoirs.

Anthony Kelleher, Head of the Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program, has a supervisory role for all projects that fall within the Program, but is only named under the project summaries in this section for those projects that he takes specific responsibility for as a named Principal Investigator or externally recognised leading investigator.

Clinical trials and cohort studies

The Australian Primary HIV Infection Database

An ongoing prospective cohort of patients with primary HIV infection.

Status: During 2007, 10 new cases of newly acquired HIV infection were entered into the primary HIV infection database. Information was routinely updated from laboratory and clinical data bases.

Personnel: Linda Gelgor, Pat Grey, Ansari Shaik, Kathy Petoumenos, Anthony Kelleher

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, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Acute Infection Early Disease Research Program (AIEDRP)

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

Status: Collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital continued 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 until June 2007 with the completion of the US National Institutes of Health funding round.

Personnel: Pat Grey, Linda Gelgor, Matthew Law, Ansari Shaik, Nabila Seddiki, Michelle Bailey, John Kaldor, David Cooper, Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University; US National Institutes of Health; Don Smith, Albion Street Centre; 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, 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: The 206 patients enrolled in this study were followed up until June 2007. The database was cleaned and locked.

Personnel: Linda Gelgor, Pat Grey, Mee-Ling Munier, Ansari Shaik, John Kaldor, David Cooper, Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Don Smith, Albion Street Centre; 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; Kate McGhie, Julie Yeung, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University

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: The 125 patients enrolled in this study were followed up until June 2007. The database was cleaned and locked.

Personnel: Pat Grey, Linda Gelgor, Ansari Shaik, Mee-Ling Munier, David Cooper, John Kaldor, Anthony Kelleher

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, Kate McGhie, Julie Yeung, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University; The Alfred Hospital; Tim Read, Melbourne Sexual Health; Sydney Sexual Health, Jennifer Hoy, Infectious Diseases Unit, Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research; John Murray, School of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, UNSW

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

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

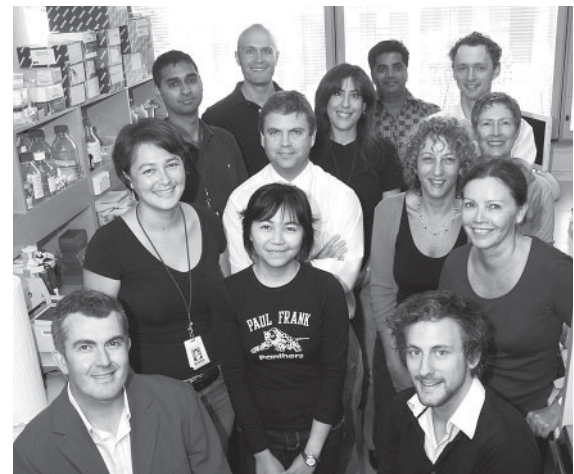
A systematic mechanism to follow up the PHAEDRA and Core01 cohorts in Sydney and Melbourne with acute and early HIV-1 infection.

Status: 40 patients were enrolled in this study during 2007.

Personnel: Pat Grey, Linda Gelgor, Ansari Shaik, David Cooper, John Kaldor, Anthony Kelleher

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, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University; The Alfred Hospital; Tim Read, Melbourne Sexual Health; Sydney Sexual Health, John Murray, School of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, UNSW

Funding: US National Institutes of Health



Back row: Sanjay Swaminathan, David van Bockel, Nabila Seddiki, Ansari Shaik, Chris Weatherall, Deborah Taylor

Middle row: Mee-Ling Munier, Anthony Kelleher, Linda Gelgor, Pat Grey

Front row: Philip Cunningham (Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney), Heidi Lim, Kai Brown

Primary HIV infection therapeutic vaccine trial (AIN504)

A randomised phase II study of therapeutic immunisation and treatment interruption among subjects who began potent antiretroviral therapy within 16 days of diagnosis of acute or recent HIV infection.

Status: The seven patients previously randomised completed the immunisation schedule. The trial was closed in June 2007 with the end of the US National Institutes of Health funding round.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, Pat Grey, Ansari Shaik, Linda Gelgor

Collaborators: US National Institutes of Health; Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House Private Practice; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Phillip Cunningham, Kate McGhie, Julie Yeung, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: US National Institutes of Health

Randomised trial in primary HIV infection looking at three forms of intervention (SPARTAC)

SPARTAC (short pulse antiretroviral treatment at seroconversion) looks at the effect on CD4 T-cells of three interventions at primary HIV infection, either treating with antiretroviral therapy for 12 or 48 weeks or not treating at all until CD4 declines to <350 cells.

Status: 12 patients were randomised to this study in 2007, making a total of 37.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, Pat Grey, Ansari Shaik

Collaborators: Medical Research Council (UK); Jonathon Weber, Sarah Fidler, Imperial College; Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House Private Practice; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; Mark Kelly, AIDS Medical Unit; David Orth, Gladstone Road Medical Centre; Norman Roth, Prahran Market Clinic; Nick Medland, The Centre Clinic; Jonathan Anderson, Carlton Clinic; Philip Cunningham, Kate McGhie, Julie Yeung, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: Wellcome Trust

PINT

A study of the effects of the integrase inhibitor, raltegravir, on viral reservoirs in those treated at primary HIV-infection compared to those treated during chronic infection.

Status: The trial received ethics approval in December 2007.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, Linda Gelgor, Christophe Boesecke, Sean Emery, Wendy Lee, Janaki Amin, David Cooper

Collaborators: Robert Finlayson, Taylor Square Private Clinic; Mark Bloch, Holdsworth House Private Practice; Robert McFarlane, 407 Doctors; Cassy Workman, AIDS Research Initiative; John Zaunders, Kat Marks, Kate McGhie, Julie Yeung, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, John Murray, School of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, UNSW

Funding: Merck & Co Inc

Australian Long-Term Nonprogressor Study

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

Status: Of the 110 people recruited into the cohort as long-term non-progressors, twenty-five percent remained sustained nonprogressors, with a median duration of infection in this subgroup of 20 years (range 9-23 years). The most recent CD4 count was above 350/ μ l, and median viral load was below 5000 copies/ μ l.

Personnel: Linda Gelgor, Melanie Middleton Anthony Kelleher, John Kaldor, David Cooper

Collaborators: Long-Term Nonprogressor Study Group, including clinical sites in Sydney, Canberra, Brisbane and Melbourne; Kat Marks, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Laboratory 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

Personnel: Mee-Ling Munier (PhD student), Michelle Bailey

Collaborators: Kate Merlin, Julie Yeung, Maria Piperias, Bertha Fasdni, 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 6-10 colour multiparameter flow cytometry. Intensive assays were performed as part of the phase 1 trial of P04112 (see *Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program*.)

Personnel: Nabila Seddiki, Mee-Ling Munier (PhD student), David van Bockel (PhD student), Michelle Bailey, Anthony Kelleher

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, identification of antigen-specific T-cells and enumeration of dendritic cell subpopulations and the cytokines they produce. Such assays are included in the protocols of clinical trials and natural history studies carried out by NCHECR.

Status: Continued analysis of samples from PULSE (see *Annual Report 2005*), CORE01, PHAEDRA and the long-term nonprogressor cohorts. Intensive assays were performed as part of the phase 1 trial of P04112 and a large contract to assess the immunogenicity of a flu vaccine was commenced.

Personnel: Nabila Seddiki, Mee-Ling Munier (PhD student), David van Bockel (PhD student), Kellie Nallaiah, Chansavath Phetsouphanh, Celine Yan, Yin Xu, Anthony Kelleher

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

Funding: Project-specific grants

HIV drug resistance

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.

Status: Over 200 HIV-1 resistance genotypes were performed.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Philip Cunningham, Kazuo Suzuki, Leon McNally, Alexander Carrera, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NSW Health Department

Transmission of resistance in primary HIV 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 resistant virus in the Australian population.

Status: Subtype determination was performed on all sequences. >20 genotypes were performed on acute seroconverters.

Personnel: Melanie Middleton, Anthony Kelleher

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

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

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 on detuned assays, and comparisons were made between this assay and a BED assay on a large subset of these. Efforts were made to adapt dried blood spots for nucleic acid testing.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: Philip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Sara Evans, Leahena Leas, Jane Cornwall, 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 (LTNP) cohort, and samples collected from the PHAEDRA cohort.

Status: T-cell receptor repertoire was defined on a range of HLA-B27+ LTNP, analysis is ongoing.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, David van Bockel (PhD student), Nabila Seddiki, Linda Gelgor

Collaborators: Peter Doherty, Stephen Turner, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne; Daniel Douek, David Price, Vaccine Research Centre, US National Institutes of Health; Miles Davenport, Centre for Vascular Research, UNSW, John Murray, School of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, UNSW

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: Constructs applicable for use in SIV-infection were developed and transferred into plasmid delivery vehicles. Epigenetic changes induced by dsRNAs targeting HIV-LTR were defined.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, Heidi Lim (PhD student), Sanjay Swaminathan (PhD student)

Collaborator: Kazuo Suzuki, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NHMRC

Characterisation of CD4+ CCR5+ T-cells in primary HIV and other primary viral infections

This project involves investigations of the role CD4+ CCR5+ T-cells in the outcome of disease in the long-term nonprogressor (see *HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program*) and the PHAEDRA/CORE01 cohorts.

Status: Preferential infection of virus-specific CD4+ CCR5+ T-cells was identified at primary infection. Role of CTLA-4 in regulation of HIV-specific immune response was defined.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, Mee-Ling Munier (PhD student)

Collaborators: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Daniel Kaufmann, Partners AIDS Research Center (Massachusetts General Hospital), Harvard University

Funding: US National Institutes of Health; NHMRC

IL-7 receptor modulation

The impact of IL-7 and the expression of its receptor on T-cell subsets, T-cell homeostasis, CD4 T-cell recovery post HAART and developing lymphoma are being explored using both *in vitro* and *ex vivo* techniques. These studies have been extended to include the cell biology of the IL-7 receptor modulation.

Status: Studies of IL-7 receptor on malignant B cells in lymphomas and leukemias continued. The cellular processing of IL-7 receptor after binding its ligand was explored using molecular techniques.

Personnel: Anthony Kelleher, Sarah Sasson (PhD student)

Collaborators: John Zaunders, Sandy Smith, Sam Milliken, John Moore, Keith Stanley, Natasha Foster, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NHMRC

Definition of T regulatory subsets

Studies carried out to define a novel and more rigorous way of defining human T regulatory cells.

Status: Novel assay developed and submitted as provisional patent. Assay development was completed, and was used for the sorting of functional subsets for *in vitro* suppression assays and epigenetic studies of the granzyme B gene. A licencing agreement was negotiated with Becton Dickinson for the use of the original patented assay. The use of the assay was extended to non-human primates in therapeutic vaccine trials.

Personnel: Nabila Seddiki, Anthony Kelleher, Sarah Sasson (PhD student), Kai Brown (MB BS Honours Student), Chansavath Phetsouphanh

Collaborators: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Barbara Fasekas, Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine and Cell Biology, The University of Sydney; Alan Landay, Rush Medical School; Stephen Kent, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne; Sudha Rao, Australian National University

Funding: NHMRC

Novel assays for assessing T-cell function

Assays designed to amplify small "primed" responses, and also simplified methodologies that may be applicable in the field in developing countries where large scale vaccine trials are likely to be run.

Status: Priming assays were conducted on the primary infection patients who control virus and those who do not. A provisional patent was lodged for a methodology for a simplified T-cell assay and negotiations for development of the assay were commenced with biotech companies.

Personnel: Mee-Ling Munier (PhD student), Michelle Bailey, Nabila Seddiki Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Stephen Kent, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne

Funding: NHMRC

B cell subsets, neutralising antibodies and auto-antibodies at primary HIV-1 Infection

Studies of overlap between neutralising antibodies and auto-antibodies at primary infection and the subsets of B cells producing these responses.

Status: Characterisation of the B cell subsets responding to HIV-1 during primary infection was commenced in 2007. Assays determining the carriage of neutralizing assays for HIV-1 and anticariolin antibodies in > 300 primary infection patients were completed in 2007.

Personnel: Chris Weatherall (PhD student), Anthony Kelleher

Collaborators: John Zaunders, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney; Damian Purcell, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne; Stuart Tangye, Immunology and Inflammation Program, Garvan Institute of Medical Research

Funding: NHMRC

Immunopathogenesis of immune reconstitution disease

Studies of the immunopathogenesis of immune reconstitution disease (IRD) based on the samples studied *ex vivo* from patients suffering this disease.

Status: A study exploring the causes of this dysregulation commenced in 2006, and is ongoing.

Personnel: Nabila Seddiki, Anthony Kelleher, David van Bockel (PhD student), Chansavath Phetsouphanh, Sarah Pett

Collaborator: Debbie Marriott, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: NHMRC

Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program clinical trials network

Each site listed below has recruited or followed at least one subject in a research protocol investigating primary HIV infection during 2007.

New South Wales

407 Doctors

Site principal: David Baker

Site coordinator: Robyn Vale

AIDS Research Initiative

Site principal: Cassy Workman

Site coordinators: Vanessa Rees, Sarah Baker

Burwood Road General Practice

Site principal: Nicholas Doong

Site coordinator: Jeff Hudson

Holdsworth House General Practice

Site principal: Mark Bloch

Site coordinators: Shikha Agrawal, Kate Beilliter

Immunology B Ambulatory Care Clinic, St Vincent's Hospital

Site principal: David Cooper

Site coordinators: Richard Norris, Mark Rollason

Sydney Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Anna McNulty

Site coordinator: Bronwhyn Bourke

Taylor Square Private Clinic

Site principal: Robert Finlayson

Site coordinator: Sophie Dinning

Victoria

Carlton Clinic

Site principal: Jonathan Anderson

Site coordinator: Paul Cortissos

**Clinical Research Section, Infectious Diseases Unit,
The Alfred Hospital**

Site principal: Jennifer Hoy

Site coordinator: Janine Roney

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Site principal: Tim Read

Site coordinators: Julie Silvers, Helen Kent

Prahran Market Clinic

Site principal: Norman Roth

Site coordinator: Helen Wood

The Centre Clinic

Site principal: Nicholas Medland

Site coordinator: Helen Wood

Queensland

AIDS Medical Unit

Site principal: Mark Kelly

Site coordinator: Peita-Lee Ambrose

Gladstone Road Medical Centre

Site principal: David Orth

Site coordinator: David Youds

Clinical and epidemiological research in the Asia-Pacific region

This section reports on the activities of NCHECR staff based overseas. See listings below for projects of the Asia-Pacific region described in other sections of the report.

Thailand

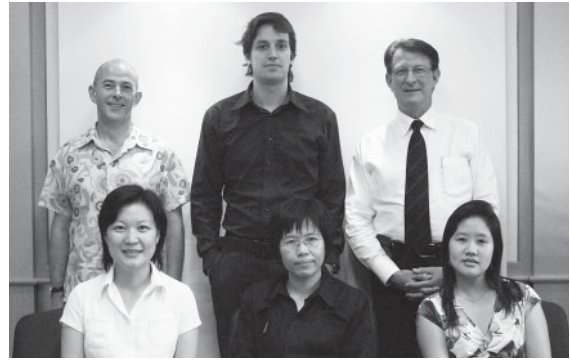
The HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT) is a partnership between NCHECR, the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre in Bangkok and the International Antiviral Therapy Evaluation Centre in Amsterdam. The collaboration enrolled its first subject in 1996. HIV-NAT studies are numbered consecutively and HIV-NAT 098 is the most recent. Of the 98 studies conducted at HIV-NAT since 1996, 59 were active in 2007. Eleven of these were paediatric studies.

HIV-NAT's mission statement covers three broad areas: clinical research, access to quality HIV care and training. To these can be added community outreach programs which were expanded in 2007. HIV-NAT paediatricians are particularly active in promoting care in the community for children with HIV, not just with medicine but also with financial and psycho-social support for families living with HIV. With donations from within Thailand and from abroad, HIV-NAT supports schooling, and activities to boost self-confidence, reduce stigma and help children with HIV live normal lives.

Efforts to improve access to appropriate and affordable antiretrovirals (ARVs) were focussed on bioequivalence studies of generic ARVs and dose reduction studies to improve tolerability in a Thai population. In collaboration with the Government Pharmaceutical Organization of Thailand, the HIV-NAT pharmacokinetic laboratory assessed the bioequivalence of two generic protease inhibitors in healthy non-HIV infected volunteers. A combined analysis of five studies of low dose stavudine resulted in the World Health Organization recommending that the dose of this drug be reduced to 30mg BD. Two of the five studies in the analysis were conducted at HIV-NAT.

There are 14 sites in the HIV-NAT clinical trials network; six in Bangkok, seven in regional Thailand and two in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This report lists the projects in which NCHECR personnel play a substantive role.

Chris Duncombe and Stephen Kerr are responsible for NCHECR's contribution to all studies listed below. The local study coordinator is also named within each project.



Drs Stephen Kerr, Jasper Van Der Lugt, Chris Duncombe (back row), and Drs Thanyawee Puthanakit, Anchalee Avihingsanon, Atchriya Hemachandra (front row) at the opening of the new HIV-NAT Research Clinic in December 2007

HIV-NAT 006

A long-term follow-up study of safety and efficacy of antiretroviral therapy for patients who have previously participated in HIV-NAT study protocols.

Status: Recruitment opened June 2003, and is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled: 800

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Anchalee Avihingsanon

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Stephen Kerr

Funding: HIV-NAT; Thai Ministry of Public Health; Merck & Co Inc; Roche Thailand Limited

HIV-NAT 006 (Amendment 2)

A study of adherence and risk behaviour in patients with HIV infection receiving antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Recruitment opened November 2007, and is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 400/800

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Adam Honeybrook (Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery, Independent Learning Project student)

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Stephen Kerr

Funding: HIV-NAT; UNSW

HIV-NAT 023

Virological and clinical anti-hepatitis B efficacy of tenofovir and emtricitabine in antiretroviral-naïve patients with HIV/hepatitis B co-infection.

Status: Recruitment opened December 2004, and is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 24/24

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Anchalee Avihingsanon

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: Gilead Sciences; Thai Ministry of Public Health

HIV-NAT 027

Efficacy and safety of a saquinavir-based regimen in HIV-1 infected Thai patients who have chronic IDV associated nephrotoxicity.

Status: Recruitment opened June 2005, and is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 30/30

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Anchalee Avihingsanon

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: Roche Laboratories Inc; Thai Ministry of Public Health

HIV-NAT 032

Generation of hepatitis B-specific T-cell immunity in individuals with HIV/hepatitis B co-infection receiving hepatitis B-active antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Recruitment opened May 2005, and is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 36/36

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Anchalee Avihingsanon

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: Thai Ministry of Public Health

PREDICT

Antiretroviral (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%), are included in this study. They are randomised to one of two arms: Immediate ARV therapy (ARV initiated on Day 0 of study), or deferred ARV therapy (ARV initiated when CD4% is less than 15%).

Status: Recruitment opened March 2006.

Sites: 8 (6 Thailand, 2 Cambodia)

Enrolled/target: 300/300

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Thanayawee Puthanakit

Personnel: Chris Duncombe, Stephen Kerr

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

Funding: US National Institutes of Health via a grant to the Thai Red Cross; GlaxoSmithKline; Abbott; F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

HIV-NAT 044

A pilot study of the pharmacokinetics, and safety of ritonavir-boosted indinavir 600/100mg BD combined with nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors in antiretroviral-naïve HIV/tuberculosis co-infected patients receiving rifampicin containing anti-tuberculosis therapy.

Status: Recruitment closed June 2007, and the study is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 20/20

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Anchalee Avihingsanon

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: HIV-NAT; Merck Sharp & Dohme; Ministry of Public Health

HIV-NAT 060

A phase III randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial to investigate the efficacy, tolerability and safety of TMC125 as part of an ART including TMC114/RTV and an investigator-selected OBR in HIV-1 infected subjects with limited to no treatment options.

Status: Recruitment closed February 2007, and the study is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Target: 2/10 (8 screen failures)

Personnel: Chris Duncombe (study coordinator)

Funding: Tibotec Pharmaceuticals

HIV-NAT 062

Phase IIb, randomized, active control, partially blinded, dose finding study of TMC278 in antiretroviral-naïve subjects.

Status: Recruitment closed March 2007, and the study is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Target: 6/10 (4 screen failures)

Personnel: Chris Duncombe (study coordinator)

Funding: Tibotec Pharmaceuticals

HIV-NAT 067 (ARTEMIS)

A randomized, controlled, open-label trial to compare the efficacy, safety and tolerability of TMC114/ritonavir versus lopinavir/ritonavir in treatment-naïve HIV-1 infected subjects.

Status: Recruitment closed January, and the study is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Target: 10/10

Personnel: Chris Duncombe (study coordinator)

Funding: Tibotec Pharmaceuticals

HIV-NAT 071

Early access to TMC114 in combination with low-dose ritonavir and other antiretrovirals in highly treatment experienced HIV-1 infected patients with limited to no treatment options.

Status: Recruitment closed April 2007, and the study is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 10/10

Personnel: Chris Duncombe (study coordinator)

Funding: Tibotec Pharmaceuticals

HIV-NAT 079 (HIV STAR)

The HIV second-line therapy antiretroviral study in patients who failed NNRTI-based regimens.

Status: Approved by Institutional Review Board.

Site: 10 HIV-NAT

Target: 500

HIV-NAT study coordinator: Torsak Bunupuradah

Personnel: Chris Duncombe

Funding: The National Health Security Office, Thailand; The Swiss HIV Cohort Study

HIV-NAT 082

Predictors and outcome assessment of adherence to antiretroviral therapy in Thailand, as a resource constrained setting in Asia.

Status: Recruitment closed December 2007, and the study is ongoing.

Site: 3 Thailand

Enrolled/target: 150/150

Personnel: Stephen Kerr (study coordinator), Chris Duncombe

Funding: UNSW

HIV-NAT 084 (POTENT Study)

A prospective randomized, open-labelled, multi-centre trial comparing the safety and efficacy of ritonavir-boosted tipranavir, (TPV/r) to that of darunavir (DRV/r) in three-class (NRTI, NNRTI, and PI) treatment-experienced patients with resistance to more than one PI.

Status: Recruitment opened in December 2007, and is ongoing.

Site: 3 Thailand

Enrolled/target: 15/20

Personnel: Stephen Kerr, Chris Duncombe

Funding: Boehringer Ingelheim

HIV-NAT 087

Early Access Program of raltegravir (MK-0518) in combination with an optimized background antiretroviral therapy in highly treatment experienced HIV-1 infected patients with limited to no treatment options.

Status: Recruitment opened in November 2007, and is ongoing.

Site: HIV-NAT

Enrolled/target: 12/20

Personnel: Stephen Kerr, Chris Duncombe

Funding: Merck & Co Inc

The following projects are described in other sections of the report:

SMART (see page 11)

ALTAIR (see page 11)

STALWART (see page 12)

ESPRIT (see page 13)

Australian-Thai HIV Vaccine Program (AE#1) (see page 12)

Assessment of HIV incidence and HIV risk behaviours among clients seeking HIV testing at the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre Anonymous Clinic, Bangkok, Thailand (see page 18)

HIV incidence and risk factors among people attending HIV voluntary counselling and testing services in Bangkok, Thailand (see page 19)

Willingness to participate in prevention research survey (Thailand) (see page 19)

Community participatory activities in preparation for HIV prevention trials in women in Thailand (see page 19)

Clinical development program to evaluate the safety and acceptability of the candidate vaginal microbicide SPL7013 (VMDC) (see page 19)

Clinical studies to evaluate the pharmacokinetics and safety of oral tenofovir and tenofovir/emtricitabine among HIV-negative Thai women (see page 20)

Tenofovir in HIV/hepatitis B co-infection (TICO) (see page 23)

Simplified CD4 and HIV viral load monitoring schemes in Thailand (see page 32)

Cambodia

NCHECR continued to support expansion of access to HIV treatment 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. The main purpose of the program is to support the NCHADS Social Health Clinic (SHC) in Phnom Penh, as a site for HIV care, training and research.

Access to treatment and care for Cambodians living with HIV/AIDS continued to expand during 2007. At the end of September 2007, there were 47 antiretroviral (ARV) treatment sites in 20 provinces. Paediatric care is provided at 22 sites. At the end of September 2007 25,353 people, including 22,981 adults and 2,372 children were receiving ARV therapy in the national program.

In addition to direct support for the SHC, NCHECR contributed to the national program in a technical capacity, including support for the development and delivery of the national training program, regional network continuing education program, provision for clinical training placements at the SHC and support for SHC staff to mentor new provincial HIV clinics. NCHECR and SHC staff in Cambodia also participated in national HIV and STI working groups, and advised on the revision of the Cambodian National Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Guidelines for Adults, ART Counselling guidelines, the development of National Viral Load Testing guidelines and new tuberculosis/HIV guidelines, a collaboration between NCHADS and the National Tuberculosis Program.

In 2007 the SHC staff of 33, included six doctors, seven nurses, a six-member counselling and peer support team, three pharmacists, and a six-member research and data management team.

In May 2007 the SHC expanded its services to include Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing for HIV. This has assisted in enabling children and spouses of SHC clients to be tested, in addition to the general public.

Clinical research at the SHC included the generation and analysis of observational patient data, and contribution to the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database. Patients continued to be enrolled in a prospective clinical cohort including sub studies in ARV adherence and immune restoration disease. Enrolment of patients into the PREDICT study continued and now includes 31 children at the SHC, and the data management team were instrumental in training and mentoring staff at three provincial ARV sites which have been selected for a multi cohort study as part of the AusAID-supported program.

NCHECR staff continued to provide technical assistance to the National Laboratory of Public Health, within NIPH, in the development and maintenance of quality managed laboratory diagnostics to support diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of people living with HIV/AIDS.

An NCHADS SHC retreat was held in Sihanoukville in October 2007 and was attended by staff from NCHADS, SHC, NCHECR and invited guests, including senior Ministry of Health officials. The program included presentations on SHC and research activities, and a planning afternoon exploring ideas for future clinic activities and research opportunities.

Cambodia Treatment Access Program (CTAP)

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

Status: During 2007, 555 people living with HIV/AIDS enrolled at the Social Health Clinic, making a total of 2,010, and 431 had commenced on antiretroviral therapy, making a total of 1,179. From May 2007, 471 people, (including 164 children) received Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing for HIV. 120 of those tested (including 19 children) were diagnosed HIV positive.

NCHADS site coordinator: Saphon Vonthanak

Personnel: Sarah Huffam, Julian Elliott, John Kaldor, David Cooper

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; National Institute for Public Health; Phillip Cunningham, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Funding: F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

Measurement and factors associated with adherence to antiretroviral therapy

A prospective cohort study comparing measures of and examining factors associated with adherence to antiretroviral therapy.

Status: Study closed July 2007.

Enrolled/target: 400/400

NCHADS study coordinator: Khol Vohith

Personnel: Julian Elliott, Sarah Huffam, Jialun Zhou, John Kaldor, David Cooper

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

Funding: AusAID

Immune restoration disease during early antiretroviral therapy

A prospective cohort study investigating incidence, characteristics and diagnosis of immune restoration disease.

Status: Study closed September 2007.

Enrolled/target: 310/360

NCHADS study coordinator: Khol Vohith

Personnel: Julian Elliott, Sarah Huffam, Jialun Zhou, John Kaldor, David Cooper

Collaborators: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs; National Institute of Public Health; The University of Western Australia

Funding: AusAID

Characteristics of first antiretroviral regimen failure

A prospective cohort study investigating incidence, characteristics and diagnosis of first antiretroviral regimen failure.

Status: Recruitment opened June 2005, and is ongoing.

Enrolled/target: 800/NA

NCHADS study coordinator: Khol Vohith

Personnel: Julian Elliott, Sarah Huffam, Jialun Zhou, John Kaldor, David Cooper

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

Funding: AusAID



NCHADS Social Health Clinic staff

The following projects are described in other sections of the report:

Young women's health study (see page 19)

Normal range study (see page 20)

HIV incidence and risk factors among people attending HIV voluntary counselling and testing services in Phnom Penh, Cambodia (see page 20)

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) (see page 30)

PREDICT (see page 42)

Indonesia

The following project is described under the Surveillance Program:

Monitoring and surveillance of HIV voluntary counselling and testing sites in Indonesia (see page 9)

Papua New Guinea

The following projects are described in other sections of the report:

Development of HIV surveillance plan for Papua New Guinea (see page 9)

Diagnosis and treatment of paediatric HIV infection in a resource limited setting (see page 33)

A clinical database of HIV-positive and exposed children attending the hospital outpatient department in a resource limited setting (see page 33)

Regional

The following projects are described under the Biostatistics and Databases Program:

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) (see page 30)

TREAT Asia Quality Assurance Scheme (TAQAS) (see page 30)

TREAT Asia Studies Evaluating Resistance (TASER) (see page 30)



Teaching and training highlights

NCHECR is involved in a wide range of teaching and training activities (see page 76). During 2007, five doctoral students and one Masters student whose research had been supervised or co-supervised by NCHECR staff were awarded their degrees. NCHECR staff also supervised another 40 postgraduate students, 39 of which were doctoral candidates.

Academic staff at NCHECR continued to be responsible for two courses offered as part of the Master of Public Health degree at the University of New South Wales.

NCHECR also contributed lectures to a variety of other postgraduate courses during the year.

The Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program again organised the NCHECR Clinical Trial Network Research Coordinators Satellite Meeting which was held in Sydney, and was attended by 48 general site coordinators from around Australia and New Zealand, as well two from Argentina and one from Thailand. A variety of topics included an update on the current research areas of NCHECR. International speakers from the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the UK Medical Research Council also addressed the meeting on other topics of interest. This annual training day continues to be evaluated extremely well.

NCHECR again contributed extensively to the organisation of the annual Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine. The Symposium has been convened each January for the past 10 years, and is the largest meeting of its kind in Asia. In 2007, 640 participants (the largest number in 10 years) from 11 countries (Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Singapore, Taiwan, China and Korea) attended the Symposium.

In collaboration with the World Health Organisation, the University of Hawaii and the US Centers for Disease Control, training courses ranging from two-eight weeks were conducted at HIV-NAT in Bangkok for physicians and nurses from Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam, China, India and Laos.

In Cambodia, NCHECR staff are also involved on a regular basis in national programs for training health care workers in HIV medicine and related areas.



Service highlights

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 71). These activities operate at a range of levels from local to international and ensure that NCHECR's researchers stay closely in touch with the programmatic and policy applications of their work.

NCHECR played a central role in organising the 4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention held in Sydney in July, with David Cooper as Local Conference Chair; John Kaldor as one of the two Deputy Chairs; Greg Dore, Andrew Grulich and Anthony Kelleher as members of the Scientific Program Committee; Sean Emery and Lisa Maher as Chief Rapporteurs; and Iona Millwood and Sarah Pett as members of rapporteur committees. This conference was the largest of its kind ever to be held in Australia with over 6,500 participants. NCHECR worked closely with the International AIDS Society and the local host, the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM), as well as other Australian organisations involved in HIV research, to ensure the conference maintained a very high standard, both administratively and scientifically, and that Australian HIV research was very well represented.

Also of note were David Cooper's continuing role in chairing the WHO/UNAIDS HIV Vaccine Advisory Committee; John Kaldor's roles in chairing the Communicable Diseases Network Australia's Subcommittee on Surveillance of Bloodborne Viral and Sexually Transmitted Infections and its newly established subcommittee to develop new approaches to HIV surveillance; Andrew Grulich's continuing role in chairing the NSW HIV Health Promotion Committee and Greg Dore's role as Vice President of ASHM.

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



Awards

Research grants

Cooper DA. A multi-centre, double-blind, randomised, active-controlled study to evaluate the safety and antiretroviral activity of MK0518 versus Kaletra™ in HIV-infected patients switched from a stable Kaletra™ based regimen. Merck Sharp and Dohme Australia Pty Ltd 2007, A\$12,636.

Cooper DA. NCHECR infrastructure funding. NSW Department of State and Regional Development 2007-2009, A\$2,000,000.

Cooper DA. The Asia-Pacific HIV Observational Database (APHOD). American Foundation for AIDS Research 2007, A\$20,629.

Cooper DA, Emery S, Kelleher AD. A randomised open-label study comparing the safety and efficacy of three different combination antiretroviral regimens as initial therapy for HIV infection (the ALTAIR Study). Gilead Sciences Pty Ltd 2007-2010, US\$6,669,638.

Cooper DA, Emery S, Kelleher AD. A pathogenesis study of the differential effects of a HAART regime including raltegravir commenced at primary or during chronic infection on viral reservoirs. Merck Sharp and Dohme Australia Pty Ltd 2007-2009, A\$485,000.

Cooper DA, Pett SL, Emery S, Kelleher A. P04112 study: Activity and safety of SCH532706 in HIV-1 infected subjects. Schering-Plough Research Institute 2007, A\$208,222.

Day C, Haber P, Dore GJ, Batey R. A cohort study to define hepatitis C treatment outcomes in the opioid pharmacotherapy treatment setting. NSW Health Drug and Alcohol Research Program 2007-2008, A\$25,700.

Day C, Topp L, Dore GJ, Maher L. Injecting drug users' perceptions and experiences of clinical trials. UNSW Faculty Research Grant 2007, A\$36,000.

Donovan B, Fairley CK, Grulich AE. Long-term surveillance for genital warts through Australian sexual health services. CSL Pty Ltd 2008-2010, A\$548,000.

Dore GJ, Kaldor JM. Enhancing hepatitis C treatment uptake and outcomes in opiate dependency pharmacotherapy settings, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing 2007-2009, A\$366,480.

Dore GJ, Kaldor JM. Enhancing hepatitis C treatment uptake and outcomes in opiate dependency pharmacotherapy settings, NSW Health Department 2007, A\$130,000.

Dore GJ, Matthews GV, Ruxrungtham K. Liver disease and HIV/hepatitis B co-infection in the HAART era. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, USA 2007, US\$54,650.

Grulich AE, Jin F, Prestage. Incidence and risk factors for hepatitis C transmission among homosexual men. NSW Health Department 2007, A\$53,560.

Hellard M, Donovan B, Guy R, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE, Sullivan E, Dimech W, White B. Australian Collaboration on Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS) Project. Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing 2007-2009, A\$1,083,844.

Hocking J, Bradshaw C, Tabrizi S, Fairley CK, Pirotta M, Donovan B. A longitudinal study of bacterial vaginosis and mycoplasma genitalium in young Australian women. NHMRC Project Grant 2008-2010, A\$115,000.

Hocking J, Fairley CK, Bowden F, Donovan B, Chen MY, Kaldor JM, Gunn J, Pirotta M, Harindra V, Gurrin L, Tabrizi S, Garland SM, McNamee K, Birden H. Chlamydia incidence and re-infection study (CIRIS): A longitudinal cohort study of Australian women. Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing 2006-2009, A\$833,714.

Iredell J, Partridge S, Gidding H, Gilbert G. Effects of antibiotics on the human microflora NHMRC Project Grant 2007-2009, A\$402,440.

Lloyd A, Dore GJ, Maher L, Cooper DA, Kaldor JM, Dolan K, Mattick R, Treloar C, Kippax S, White P, Rawlinson W, Zekry A. UNSW Hepatitis C Vaccine Initiative, UNSW Strategic Research Grants 2007-2010, A\$2,787,380.

Maher L, Day C, Crofts JN, van Beek I, Kaldor JM, Strathdee S. Prevention and treatment of hepatitis C (PATH) trial. UNSW Goldstar Award 2008, A\$40,000.

Maher L, Iversen JL, Deacon RM. NSW Needle and Syringe Program client census. NSW Health Department 2008, A\$39,516.

Maher L, Iversen JL, Pham A. Expansion of the "Three Ones" AIDS coordination model: Support for strengthening the capacity of prevention programs (including harm reduction) in Vietnam. WHO/UNAIDS 2007, US\$20,000.

Maher L, Treloar C. Hepatitis C seroconversion study. NSW Health Department 2008-2009, A\$244,527.

Maher L, van Beek I, Day CA, Topp L, Shanahan M, Kaldor JM. Randomised controlled trial of acceptability, uptake and completion of hepatitis B vaccination in intravenous drug users. NHMRC Project Grant 2008-2010, A\$446,750.

Regan D, Wilson DP. Determining the impact of deliberate screening strategies on the prevalence of sexually transmitted chlamydia in Australia. UNSW Faculty Research Grant 2007, A\$10,000.

Richters J, Butler T, Donovan B. Qualitative research into the sexual behaviour and context of NSW prisoners, NSW Health Department 2008, A\$21,000.

Vajdic CM, Grulich AE. Cancer in people with HIV/AIDS: Incidence and risk factors in the era of effective antiretroviral therapy. UNSW Early Career Research Grant 2007, A\$40,000.

Vajdic CM, Grulich AE. Incidence and risk factors for cancer after liver and cardiothoracic transplantation. NHMRC Project Grant 2008-2010, A\$290,500.

Wilson DP. Allocating scarce HIV/AIDS antiretroviral drugs in resource-constrained countries: Using modelling to develop tools and analyse consequences of ethics and HIV epidemiology. Australian Research Council Discovery Project Grant 2007-2009, A\$109,000.

Wilson DP. Modelling the potential benefits-risks of antiretroviral-containing microbicides for settings with high HIV prevalence. UNSW Faculty Research Grant 2007, A\$40,000.

Fellowships

Cooper DA. Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA).

Kaldor JM. NHMRC Research Fellowship Grant 2008, A\$147,250.

Other

Cooper DA. Honorary Lifetime Membership, International AIDS Society.

Swaminathan S. Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia, Kanematsu/Kitamura Memorial Award.

Weatherall C. St Vincent's Campus Research Symposium, K.I. Scientific Award for Research Excellence.



Personnel

This list includes both full time and part time staff. Activities listed in this report under *External boards, committees and advisory groups; Education and training; Publications and Presentations at conferences and meetings* relate only to individuals whose primary employment is with NCHECR.

Director's office

Director and Scientia Professor of Medicine

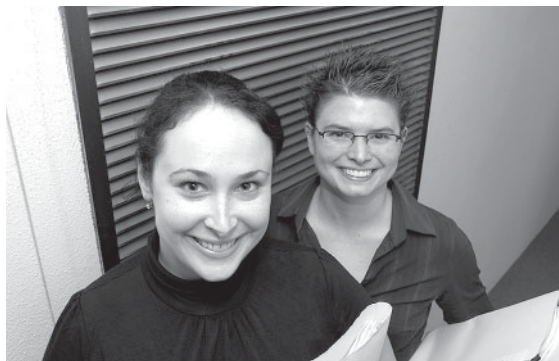
David Cooper AO, BSc(Med), MB BS, MD, DSc, FAA, FRACP, FRCPA, FRCP

Executive Assistant

Janette Bulton

Research Assistant

Damien Cordery BSc(Hons), MPH, PhD (from July)



Rachel Deacon, Amanda Scott

Deputy Director's office

Deputy Director and Professor of Epidemiology

John Kaldor PhD

Epidemiology and Prevention Grouping Coordinator*

Jennifer Kemp

Administrative Assistants*

Ali Ayoub BA Vis Com, Grad Dip Couns (from May)

Kate Chivers (to January)

Rachel Deacon BSc(Hons), PhD (part time)

Amanda Scott BManagement

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 Epidemiology and Prevention 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, Grad Dip Epi Bio, FRACP (part time)

Senior Lecturer

Mark Boyd BA, BM, BS, DCTM&H, MHID, MD, FRACP (from April)

Lecturers

Christoph Boesecke MD (from August)

Dianne Carey BPharm, MPH

Kate Clezy MB BS, FRACP (part time)

Fraser Drummond MB ChB, MRCA, DA (UK)

Paddy Mallon BSc(Hons), MB BCh, BAO (to January)

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

Rebekah Puls BSc(Hons), PhD

Senior Clinical Project Coordinators

Cate Carey RN, BA, MAppSc(Research)

Allison Humphries BSc, MSc(Med), Grad Dip PH

Clinical Project Coordinators

Maria Arriaga BSc, MScMed(STD/HIV)

Helen Byakwaga MB ChB

David Courtney-Rodgers

Carlo Dazo BMedSc(Hons)

Mary Ellen Harrod BA, Grad Dip Psych (Hons), PhD (to April)

Tian Erho BMed, Grad Dip (Epi & Population Hth) (to November)

Hila Haskelberg BSc (from November)

Simone Jacoby BSc, Dip Nutrition, Adv Dip Bot Med

Lina Safro MB BS, BSc(Hons) (part time) (to August)

Claudette Satchell BSc(Hons)

Nisha Seneviratne BMedSc, BBus (from July)

Emma Watts BSc(Hons), BioChem

Program Coordinator

Margaret Allan BPsych

Data Managers

Kymme Courtney-Vega Dip Sp Th

Wendy Lee

Jose Aurelio Vieira Vulcao BA (from October)

* Staff working in the office of the Deputy Director and the Surveillance, HIV Epidemiology and Prevention, Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention and Biostatistics and Databases Programs

Administrative Assistants

Maja Berilazic BEd
Emma Butler BA(Hons), MA (part time)
Rosemary Robson

HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program

Head and Professor

Andrew Grulich MB BS, MSc, PhD, FAFPHM

Professor of Sexual Health

Basil Donovan MB BS, MD, Dip Ven (London),
FACHSHM, FAFPHM, FRCPI (part time)

Senior Lecturers

Garrett Prestage BA(Hons), PhD (from July)
Claire Vajdic BOptom, PhD (part time) (from July)

Lecturers

Louise Causer MB BS, MSc, DTM&H (part time)
Marianne Jauncey BMed, Grad Dip App Epi,
MPH(Hons), FAFPHM (part time) (to August)
Jeff Jin BMed, MPH, PhD
Iona Millwood BA(Hons), PhD (part time) (to August)
Mary Poynten MB BS, Dip Child Health, MPH(Hons)
(part time)
Garrett Prestage BA(Hons), PhD (to June)



Jennifer Kemp, Ali Ayoub

Post Doctoral Research Fellows

Christine Harcourt BA(Hons), MA(Hons), PhD (part time)
Claire Vajdic BOptom, PhD (part time) (to June)

Senior Research Officer

Ann McDonald BSc, MPH

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program Manager

James Ward (from September)

Clinical Project Coordinator

Lina Safro MB BS, BSc(Hons) (part time) (from August)

Research Assistants

Kate Demaere BSc (part time) (to September)
Michael Falster BPsych(Hons)

Melanie Middleton BMedSc, MPH
Jody O'Connor BHSc, MPH
Marina van Leeuwen BSc(Hons), MPH (part time)

Project Manager

Brian Acraman (to June)

Study Nurse

Harry Smith RN (to June)

Project Officers

Jack Bradley
Patrick McGrath BA, DipEd (part time) (to June)
Hédimo Santana BA(Hons) (part time) (to May)

Interviewers

Eli Braga BFA (part time) (to June)
Lara Cassar (part time) (to June)
Jon de Ruiter (part time) (to June)
Trevor Dougherty BA(Hons) (part time) (to June)
Markus Koponen (part time) (to June)
Pól McCann BA(Hons) (part time) (to June)
Greg Reading (part time) (to June)
Jose Aurelio Vieira Vulcao BA (part time) (to June)

Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program

Head and Associate Professor

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

Lecturers

Gail Matthews MBChB, MRCP (UK), FRACP
Carolyn Day BSc(Hons), PhD (part time) (to January)
Marianne Jauncey BMed, Grad Dip App Epi,
MPH(Hons), FAFPHM (part time) (from August)

Clinical Trials Manager

Pip Marks BSc

Senior Clinical Project Coordinator

Jacinta Perram BMedSci, BA (Psychology)
(from November)

Clinical Project Coordinators

Brian Acraman (from July)
Candace Carter BSc (to May)
Oscar-Hazel Donaldson BSc(Hons), Dip Ed, RN
Natalie Espinosa BAppSc, MHSc
Alexa Gillman BSc(Hons)
Ineke Shaw BSc, Grad Cert BioStats
Barbara Yeung RN, BHSc(Nursing), MPH

Project Coordinator

Deborah Adrian BSc(Hons) (from October)

Research Assistants

Anna Doab RN, MPH (part time) (to April)
Amanda Erratt ADip (Admin) (from June)

Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Moore

Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program

Head and Associate Professor

Lisa Maher PhD

Lecturer

Libby Topp BSc(Psychol)(Hons), PhD

Post Doctoral Research Fellow

Joanne Kimber BSc, PhD (from July)

Senior Project Coordinator

David Brockman BMed, BA, MPH, RACGP

Project Coordinators

Heidi Coupland BAppSc, MPH (part time)

Allison Salmon BPsych, MPH (to September)

Qualitative Research Coordinator

Julie Mooney-Somers BSc(Hons), PhD (from July)

Research Assistants

Anna Doab RN, MPH (part time) (from April)

Jarliene Enriquez (from October)

Jenny Iversen BAppSc (part time)

Biostatistics and Databases Program

Head and Associate Professor

Matthew Law MA, MSc, PhD

Senior Lecturer

John Murray BSc(Hons), MSc, PhD (part time)

Lecturers

Janaki Amin BSc(Hons), MPH(Hons), PhD (from May)

Kathy Petoumenos BSc, MA, MPH(Hons), PhD

David Regan BA, BSc(Hons), PhD

Handan Wand MA, MSc, PhD

Jialun Zhou BMed, MPH, PhD (from November)

Post Doctoral Research Fellow

David Wilson BInfTech, BAppSc(Hons), PhD

Statisticians

Janaki Amin BSc(Hons), MPH(Hons) (to May)

Heather Gidding BAppSc, Grad Dip Epid Biostats, MAppEpid, MPHAA

Kathleen Glenday BAppSc, MPH

Azar Kariminia BSc, MSc (from August)

Rebecca Oyompito BSc, Grad Dip Med Stat

Jialun Zhou BMed, MPH (to November)

Computer Systems Officers

Noorul Absar BTech, Grad Dip (Inf Sc), MComp (SW Engg)

Rossitza Chevkenova BSc

Research Assistants

Richard Gray BSc(Hons) (from October)

Alexander Hoare BSc(Hons) (to July)

Immunovirology and Pathogenesis Program

Head and Senior Lecturer

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

Lecturers

Mark Bloch MB BS, MMed (part time) (to June)

Robert Finlayson MB BS, Dip Ven, FACHSHM (part time) (to June)

Linda Gelgor PhD, MSc

Robert Macfarlane MB BS, FRACGP (part time) (to June)

Nicholas Medland BA(Hons), MB BS, Dip Ven (part time) (to June)

Tim Ramacciotti BA(Hons), MD, MPH (to January)

Norman Roth MB BS, Dip Av Med, Dip Ven, FACHSHM (part time) (to June)

Nabila Seddiki PhD

Cassy Workman MB BS (part time) (to June)

Clinical Project Coordinators

Patricia Grey BA, Post Grad Dip App Sci, CNS, Dip (Counselling)

Mee-Ling Munier BSc, Grad Dip Epi, MSc (from October)

Research Assistants

Michelle Bailey BSc(Hons)

Susanna Ip BSc

Kellie Nalliah BMedSc (to February)

Chansavath Phetsouphanh BSc, MSc (from June)

Celine Yan BMedSc (Pathology) (from November)

Yin Xu MSc (Research), MSc (from November)

Data Administrator

Ansari Shaik BA, MBA

Administrative Assistants

Susan Lewis MA (part time)

Deborah Taylor BA (part time)

Sarah Field BVA (part time)

Internationally-based staff

Senior Lecturers

Chris Duncombe MB BS, RAC GP (HIV-NAT, Thailand)

Sarah Huffam MB BS, MPH&TM, FRACP, FACHSHM
(NCHADS, Cambodia)

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

Finance and Administration

Manager

Bronwen Turner BA

Business Manager

Annie Tung MPA

Finance Managers

Gina Lam BA(Hons), EMBA

Patricia Xu BEc, EMBA, CPA

Librarian

Coralie Kronenberg BA, Dip IM Lib, AALIA (part time)

Human Resources Advisor

Brigette Sharp BA(Hons)

Computer Systems Officers

Lisa Howard Dip IT

Charles Tran BCompSc

Finance Administrator

Teresa Wong BAcc, CPA

Office Administrator

Yvette Toole

Administrative Assistants

Courtney Bendall DipBus (to January)

Ian Brodie BEc, Grad Dip Ed, Ass Dip Hlth Sc

May Park Dip Law, Dip Travel & Tourism (from January)

Receptionist

Rata Joseph



Back row: Yvette Toole, Gina Lam, Brigette Sharp,
Rata Joseph, Bronwen Turner, May Park
Front row: Annie Tung, Patricia Xu, Courtney Bendall,
Teresa Wong, Janette Button



Researchers affiliated to NCHECR

Senior Visiting Fellow

Philip Cunningham BAppSc(Med)
Chief of Operations
Centre for Immunology
St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Visiting Fellows

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

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

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

Don Smith MB ChB, MD
Associate Professor and Head of Research Development
Albion Street Centre, Sydney

Mark Sullivan BSc
Chief Operating Officer
VivaGel™ Microbicide Development Consortium
Medicines Development Limited, Melbourne

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



Training or student placements at NCHECR

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (Honours) student

Kai Brown

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery Independent Learning Project students

Adam Honeybrook (from May) (at HIV-NAT)

Amy Julian (to March)

Song Yuin Lee (from May)

Gerard Moynihan (to March)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) student

Yuan Gao

Doctor of Philosophy students

Wari Allison BSc(Hons), MB BS

Oliver Distler BSc(Hons), MSc (from March)

Alexander Hoare BSc(Hons) (from July)

Susan Hudson BSW, PG Cert Addictions, MSW

Heidi Lim BSc(Hons)

Mee-Ling Munier BSc, Grad Dip Epi, MSc

Fatemah Nakhee BSc, MSc (to August)

Allison Salmon BPsych, MPH (from September)

Sarah Sasson BA, BSc(Hons)

Preeyaporn Srasuebkal BSc, MSc

Sanjay Swaminathan MB BS, BMedSc

David Templeton MB ChB, Dip Ven, Grad Cert ForensMed, MACLM, FChSHM

David van Bockel BBiotech(Hons)

Marina van Leeuwen BSc(Hons), MPH

Chris Weatherall MB BS, BMedSc, FRACP

Doctor of Philosophy practicum students

Mohtaram Nematollahi BSc, MSc (Iran University of Medical Sciences, Iran) (from November to December)

Sulaman Yotthanoo BA, MSc (Prince of Songkla University, Thailand) (from April to May)

International training placement

Valeria Colleselli (Innsbruck Medical University, Austria) (September)

Master of Applied Epidemiology (Indigenous Health) student

Simon Graham BIS (from March)



Back Row: Susan Hudson, Preeyaporn Srasuebkal, Fatemeh Nakhaee, Wari Allison
Front: Alexander Hoare

Master of Biomedical Science practicum student

Louise Dekker (Vrije University, The Netherlands) (at HIV-NAT)

Master of International Public Health practicum students

Cecilia de Bustos (Vrije University, The Netherlands) (at HIV-NAT)

Sabine Heus (Vrije University, The Netherlands) (at HIV-NAT)

Visiting Post Doctoral Research Fellow

Jason Grebely BSc, PhD



Collaborating organisations

National

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) Primary Immunodeficiency Register, Sydney
Australia and New Zealand Cardiothoracic Transplant Registry, Sydney
Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry (ANZDATA), Adelaide
Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Registry, Brisbane
Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Canberra
Australian Centre for Hepatitis and HIV Virology Research (ACH²), UNSW, Sydney
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Sydney
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra
Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL), Canberra
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Canberra
Australian Liver Association, Sydney
Australian National Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Registry, Canberra
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
Hepatitis Australia, Canberra
Immunovirology Research Network (IVRN), UNSW, Sydney
National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Sydney
National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth
National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University, Canberra
National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases, Sydney
National Centre in HIV Social Research, UNSW, Sydney
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW, Sydney
National Serology Reference Laboratory, Australia, Melbourne
Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH), Canberra
Phase Forward Pty Ltd, Sydney
Royal Australasian College of General Practitioners, Sydney
Therapeutic Goods Administration, Canberra

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Corrective Services, Canberra
Canberra Sexual Health Clinic, Canberra
Communicable Disease Control Program, ACT Health, Canberra
Directions ACT, Canberra
Interchange General Practice, Canberra
John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University, Canberra
The Canberra Hospital, Canberra

New South Wales

407 Doctors, Sydney
Aboriginal Medical Service Coop Ltd, Sydney
AIDS Council of NSW (ACON), Sydney, Lismore, Newcastle, Penrith, Port Macquarie and Wollongong
AIDS Research Initiative, Sydney
Albion Street Centre, Sydney
Albury Community Health Centre, Albury
Area Health Public Health Units, NSW Health Department, Sydney
Bankstown Hospital, Sydney
Bigge Park Medical Centre, Sydney
Blacktown Needle and Syringe Program Services, Sydney
Bligh Street Clinic, Tamworth
Blue Mountains Sexual Health Clinic, Katoomba
Bone Density Unit, Sydney Menopause Centre, Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney
Burwood Road General Practice, Sydney
Cambodian-Australian Welfare Council of NSW, Sydney
Centre for Health Research in Criminal Justice, Justice Health, NSW Health Department, Sydney
Centre for Immunology, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
Centre for Transplant and Renal Research, Westmead
Millennium Institute for Medical Research, Sydney
Communicable Diseases Branch, NSW Health Department, Sydney
Darlinghurst X-Ray, Sydney
Dubbo Sexual Health Centre, Dubbo
First Step Program, Port Kembla and Nowra
Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney
General Medical Practice, Coffs Harbour
Harm Minimisation Program, Newcastle
Harm Reduction Services, Tweed/Murwillumbah, Byron/Ballina and Nimbin/Lismore
Health ConneXions, Sydney
Hepatitis C Council of NSW, Sydney
Holden Street Clinic, Gosford

Holdsworth House Medical Practice, Sydney and Byron Bay
 Illawarra Sexual Health, Port Kembla
 Immunology and Microbiology Department, The University of Newcastle, Newcastle
 Indo-Chinese Outreach Network (ICON), Sydney
 John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle
 Justice Health, NSW Health Department, Sydney
 K2 Health Service, Sydney
 Kellyclose Mt Druitt Needle and Syringe Program Services, Sydney
 Kirketon Road Centre, Sydney
 Lao Workers' Network, Lao Community Advancement Co-op, Sydney
 Liverpool Hospital, Sydney
 Liverpool Sexual Health Clinic, Sydney
 Menopause Unit Bone Densitometry, Sydney
 Multicultural HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Service, Sydney
 Needle and Syringe Program, Gosford and Long Jetty
 Nepean Hospital, Sydney
 Nepean Sexual Health and HIV Clinic, Sydney
 North Coast Radiology, Lismore
 Northern Rivers Health Service, Lismore
 NSW Health Department, Sydney
 NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV/AIDS, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
 NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA), Sydney
 Open Family, Sydney
 Parramatta Needle and Syringe Program Services, Sydney
 Parramatta Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), Sydney
 Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney
 Rankin Court Methadone Stabilisation Clinic, Sydney
 Rayscan Imaging, Sydney
 Resource and Education Program for Injecting Drug Users (REPIDU), Sydney
 Responsive User Services in Health (RUSH), Sydney
 Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney
 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney
 Sax Institute, Sydney
 School of Medical Sciences, UNSW, 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
 Sexually Transmitted Infections Research Centre, Westmead Hospital, Sydney
 Shape Clinic, Sydney
 South Court Primary Care Needle and Syringe Program, Sydney

South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service, NSW Health Department, Sydney
 St George Hospital, Sydney
 St George Hospital Needle and Syringe Program, Sydney
 St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
 St Vincent's Medical Imaging, Sydney
 Sydney Cancer Centre, Sydney
 Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney
 Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre, Sydney
 Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 Sydney South West Area Health Service, NSW Health Department, Sydney
 Sydney South West Sexual Health Centre, Sydney
 SydPath, Sydney
 Taylor Square Private Clinic, Sydney
 The Byrne Surgery, Sydney
 The Cancer Council NSW, Sydney
 The Cancer Institute NSW, Sydney
 The Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine and Cell Biology, The University of Sydney, Sydney
 The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney
 The Vietnamese Community in Australia NSW Chapter, Sydney
 Westmead Hospital, Sydney
 Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research, Sydney
 Wollongong Hospital, Wollongong

Northern Territory

AIDS/STI Program, Disease Control, Department of Health and Community Services, Darwin
 Alice Springs Harm Reduction Program, Alice Springs
 Communicable Disease Centre, Royal Darwin Hospital, Darwin
 Darwin Harm Reduction Program, Darwin
 Northern Territory Correctional Services Department of Justice, Darwin
 Palmerston Needle and Syringe Program, Palmerston

Queensland

AIDS Medical Unit, Queensland Health, Brisbane
 Biala Alcohol and Drug Services, Brisbane
 Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, Brisbane
 Cairns Base Hospital, Cairns
 Cairns Sexual Health Service, Cairns Base Hospital, Cairns
 Communicable Disease Unit, Queensland Health, Brisbane
 Department of Corrective Services, Brisbane
 Gladstone Road Medical Centre, Brisbane
 Gold Coast Hospital, Southport
 Gold Coast Medical Imaging, Southport
 Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, Miami
 Greenslopes Private Hospital, Brisbane

Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation,
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
James Cook University, Townsville
Kobi House, Toowoomba
Nambour General Hospital, Nambour
Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane
Queensland Association for Healthy Communities
(QAHC), Brisbane, Cairns, Gold Coast, Sunshine
Coast and Townsville
Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and
Education Centre (QADREC), The University of
Queensland, Brisbane
Queensland Diagnostic Imaging, Brisbane
Queensland Health, Brisbane
Queensland Injectors Health Network (QuIHN),
Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast
Queensland Medical Laboratory (QML), Brisbane
Queensland Positive People, Brisbane
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Brisbane
Sexual Health Service, Toowoomba Base Hospital,
Toowoomba
Southcoast Radiology, Southport
Sunshine Coast and Cooloola HIV/Sexual Health
Service, Nambour
The Cosmetic Medicine Centre, Brisbane
Townsville Aboriginal and Islanders Health Services Ltd,
Townsville
Townsville Hospital, Townsville
West Moreton Sexual Health Service, Brisbane

South Australia

AIDS Council of South Australia (ACSA), Adelaide
Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (DASSA),
Adelaide
Calvary Hospital, 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
Radiology South Australia, Calvary Hospital, Adelaide
Repatriation General Hospital, Adelaide
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide
South Australian Voice for Intravenous Education
(SAVIVE) Noarlunga, Norwood, Parks, Port Adelaide
and Shopfront, Adelaide
Shopfront Youth Health and Information Services,
Adelaide
South Australian Prison Health Services, Adelaide
The Care and Prevention Program, Adelaide University,
Adelaide

Tasmania

Clarence Community Health Service, Hobart
Communicable Disease Prevention Unit, The
Department of Health and Human Services Tasmania,
Hobart
Corrective Services Division, Department of Justice,
Hobart
Salvation Army Launceston, Launceston
Tasmanian Council on AIDS, Hepatitis and Related
Diseases (TasCAHRD), Hobart and Glenorchy
The Link Youth Service, Hobart

Victoria

Austin Hospital, Melbourne
Barwon Drug and Alcohol Services, Geelong
Bendigo Needle and Syringe Program, Bendigo
Box Hill Hospital, Melbourne
CogState Ltd, Melbourne
CSIRO Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong
Department of Human Services, Melbourne
Department of Justice, Melbourne
Department of Microbiology and Immunology,
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne
Frankston Hospital, Frankston
Geelong Hospital, Geelong
Health Information Exchange, Salvation Army,
Melbourne
Health Works, Melbourne
Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and
Public Health, Melbourne
Melbourne Inner City AIDS Prevention Centre (MINE),
Melbourne
Melbourne Pathology, Melbourne
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, Melbourne
Middle Park Clinic, Melbourne
Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne
Monash University, Melbourne
North Richmond Drug Safety Program, Melbourne
Northcote Clinic, Melbourne
Northcote Needle and Syringe Program Services,
Melbourne
People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), Melbourne
Positive Living Centre, Melbourne
Prahran Market Clinic, Melbourne
Royal Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne
Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne
School of Population Health, The University of
Melbourne, Melbourne
Southern Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS Resource and
Prevention Service (SHARPS), 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 Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, Melbourne
Western Hospital, Melbourne

Western Australia

Centre for Clinical Immunology and Biomedical Statistics, Perth
Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, Perth
Fremantle Hospital, Perth
Ministry of Justice, Strategic and Specialist Services Division, Perth
Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, Perth
Royal Perth Hospital, Perth
Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Program, Department of Health, Perth
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth
The University of Western Australia, Perth
Western Australian AIDS Council (WAAC), Perth
Western Australian Substance Users Association (WASUA), Perth

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 Malignancy Consortium, Birmingham, USA
American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR), New York, USA
Asia Pacific Neuro AIDS Consortium (APNAC), Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne
Auckland Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand
Aviano Cancer Centre, Aviano, Italy
Bamrasnaradura Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand
Beijing Ditan Hospital, Beijing, China
British Columbia Cancer Registry, Vancouver, Canada
Brown University, Providence, USA
Calgary Regional Health Authority, Calgary, Canada
Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, Ottawa, Canada
Canadian Trials Network (CTN), Vancouver, Canada
Catalan Institute of Oncology, Barcelona, Spain
Catedra de Enfermedades Infecciosas, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de la Republica, Montevideo, Uruguay
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
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, Canada
Community Research Initiative of New England, Boston, USA
Concerted Action on Seroconversion to AIDS and Death in Europe (CASCADE) and its contributors, Coordinating Unit, London, UK
Copenhagen HIV Programme, Hvidovre University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark
David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, USA
Denver Infectious Disease Consultants, Denver, USA
Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University and Montefiore Medical Centre, New York, USA
Department of HIV/GUM Research, Brighton, UK
Department of Paediatrics, Port Moresby General Hospital, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
Department of Preventative and Social Medicine, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Internal Medicine, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea
Division of Infectious Disease, Stanford University, Stanford, USA
Division of Statistics, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA
Duke University Medical Center, Duke University, Durham, USA
Faculty of Medicine, Udayana University and Sanglah Hospital, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, USA
Fundacion Arriaran, Santiago, Chile
Fundacion Centro de Estudios Infectologicos (FUNCEI), Clinica La Sagrada Familia, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Gemeinschaftspraxis Jessen, Berlin, Germany
geneOmbio Technologies Pvt Ltd, Pune, India
German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany
Hadassah Medical Centre, Jerusalem, Israel
Harvard University, Boston, USA
HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT), Bangkok, Thailand
Hôpital Saint-Louis, Paris, France
Hospital Central, Mendoza, Argentina
Hospital de Clinicas Jose de San Martin, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital de Enfermedades Infecciosas FJ Muniz, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital General de Agudos JM Ramos Mejia, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital General de Agudos Juan A Fernandez, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital General de Agudos Teodoro Álvarez, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital Interzonal de Agudos San Juan de Dios, La Plata, Argentina

Hospital Interzonal General de Agudos Oscar Alende, Mar del Plata, Argentina

Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Hospital Pitie-Salpetriere, Paris, France

Hospital Nacional Prof Dr Alejandro Posadas, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hospital Rawson, Bajada Pucara, Argentina

Hospital San Borja-Arriaran, Santiago, Chile

Hospital Universitario Clementino, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Imperial College, St Mary's Hospital, London, UK

Infectologia Hospital Nacional Alejandro Posadas, Haedo, Argentina

Institute of Infectious Disease, Pune, India

Institute of Infectious Diseases and Foundation for Research in Infectious Diseases, Mukundnagar, India

Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Médicas y Nutrición Salvador Zubrián, Mexico City, Mexico

Instituto of Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

Instituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

International AIDS Society, Geneva, Sweden

International AIDS Therapy Evaluation Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

International Consortium of Investigators Working on Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Epidemiologic Studies (InterLymph)

International Medical Center of Japan, Tokyo, Japan

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA

Joint Clinical Research Centre, Kampala, Uganda

JW Goethe Universität, Frankfurt, Germany

Kaplan Medical Centre, Rehovot, Israel

Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland

Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, London, UK

Ministry of Public Health, Bangkok, Thailand

National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs (NCHADS), Phnom Penh, Cambodia

National Center for Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

National Development Research Institute, New York, USA

National Health Laboratory Services, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA

National Institute for Public Health, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA

National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Hanoi, Vietnam

National Institute of Infectious Disease, Tokyo, Japan

National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA

National Pediatric Hospital, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

National Yang-Ming University, Taipei, Taiwan

Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, The National Institute of Research Excellence for Maori Development and Advancement, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Osaka National Hospital, Osaka, Japan

Partners AIDS Research Center, Boston, USA

Pasteur Institute, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Port Moresby General Hospital, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Project PHIDISA, South Africa Military Health Service, Pretoria, South Africa

Providence Health Care, Vancouver, Canada

Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hong Kong, China

Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong, China

Radboud University Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Rambam Medical Centre, Haifa, Israel

Research Institute for Health Science, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, Manila, Philippines

Royal Free Hospital, London, UK

Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, UK

Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, USA

San Francisco General Hospital, San Francisco, USA

Sanpatong Hospital, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Shanghai Municipal Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Shanghai, China

Siriraj Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

Srinagarind Hospital, Khon Kaen, Thailand

Stanford University, Stanford, USA

State Key Laboratory of Virology, Wuhan University, Wuhan, China

Surveillance and Risk Assessment Division, Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, Health Canada, Ottawa, Canada
Taipei Veterans General Hospital and AIDS Prevention and Research Centre, National Yang-Ming University, Taipei, Taiwan
Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore, Singapore
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Centre, Tel Aviv, Israel
Thai Red Cross Society, Bangkok, Thailand
The Government Pharmaceutical Organisation, Bangkok, Thailand
The Peter Medawar Building for Pathogen Research, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Toronto Hospital, Toronto, Canada
TREAT Asia, American Foundation for AIDS Research (amFAR), Bangkok, Thailand and New York, USA
UNAIDS, Geneva, Switzerland
University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
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University of California, Los Angeles, USA
University of California, San Francisco, USA
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Waikato Hospital, Hamilton, New Zealand
Wellington Hospital, Wellington, New Zealand
Wetherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, Oxford, UK
World Health Organisation, Geneva, Switzerland
Wuhan University, Wuhan, China
YRG Centre for AIDS Research and Education, Chennai, India

Roche Products Pty Ltd, Sydney
Sanofi-Aventis, Paris, France
Sanofi-Aventis, Sydney
Starpharma Pty Ltd, Melbourne
Tibotec, Mechelen, Belgium
Virax Immunotherapeutics, Melbourne

Pharmaceutical and biomedical industry

Abbott Australasia Pty Ltd, Sydney
Becton Dickinson Pty Ltd, Sydney
Boehringer Ingelheim Pty Ltd, Sydney
Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals, Melbourne
Cellestis, Melbourne
CSL Limited, Melbourne
F Hoffman-La Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland
Gilead Sciences, Melbourne
GlaxoSmithKline Australia, Melbourne
Johnson & Johnson Research Pty Ltd, Sydney
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Professor and Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research, UNSW, Sydney

Andrew Lloyd MB BS, MD, FRACP

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;
Director, World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Virus Reference and Research, Melbourne

Stuart Loveday

Executive officer, Hepatitis C Council of NSW, Sydney

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

Zoe Potgeiter RN, CNS

Clinical Trial Coordinator, Immunology B Ambulatory Care Clinic, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Stuart Roberts MB BS, FRACP, MD

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

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

Libby Topp BSc(Psychol)(Hons), PhD
NCHECR

Carla Treloar BSc(Hons), PhD
Deputy Director, National Centre in HIV Social
Research, UNSW, Sydney

**Helen Tyrell BA(Hons), RN, MBA, FACHSE, CHE
(from May)**
Executive Officer, Australian Hepatitis Council,
Canberra

Gail Matthews MB ChB, MRCP (Convenor)
NCHECR

NCHECR Working Groups *ex officio*

**David Cooper AO, BSc(Med), MB BS, MD, DSc, FAA,
FRACP, FRCPA, FRCP**
NCHECR

Levinia Crooks AM, BA(Hons), Dip Ed (from July)
Chief Executive Officer, Australasian Society for HIV
Medicine, Sydney

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

Sean Emery BSc(Hons), PhD
NCHECR

John M Kaldor PhD
NCHECR

Adeeba Kamarulzaman MB BS, FRACP
Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases, Clinical
Investigations Centre, University of Malaya Medical
Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Matthew Law MA, MSc, PhD
NCHECR

**Patrick Li MB BS, FHKCP, FHKAM (Medicine), FRCP
(London), FRCP (Edinburgh)**
Chief of Service, Department of Medicine, Queen
Elizabeth Hospital, Hong Kong

**Peter McDonald AM, MB BS, FRCPA, MRACP,
FRACP, FASM (to June)**
Emeritus Professor, Flinders University, Adelaide



External boards, committees and advisory groups

1st International Workshop on Biomedical Interventions in HIV Therapy in Resource-Poor Settings Scientific Committee
(David Cooper, John Kaldor)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention Organising Committee
(David Cooper, Local Conference Chair; John Kaldor, Deputy Local Conference Chair)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Scientific Programme Committee
(David Cooper, John Kaldor)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Track A (HIV Basic Science) Committee
(Anthony Kelleher)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Track B (Clinical Research, Treatment and Care)
(Sean Emery, Chief Rapporteur; Sarah Pett, Rapporteur)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Track B, (Clinical Research, Treatment and Care) Committee
(Greg Dore)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Track C (Biomedical Prevention)
(Lisa Maher, Chief Rapporteur; Iona Millwood, Rapporteur)

4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Track C (Biomedical Prevention) Committee
(Andrew Grulich)

9th International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection Organising Committee
(David Cooper)

9th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV Organising Committee
(David Cooper)

10th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine
(Chris Duncombe, Symposium Organiser and Head, Scientific Program Committee)

10th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine Organising Committee
(David Cooper)

19th Annual Meeting of the International Harm Reduction Association, International Program Advisory Group
(Lisa Maher)

AIDS Council of New South Wales, Aboriginal Advisory Group
(Garrett Prestage, James Ward)

AIDS Council of New South Wales Board
(Garrett Prestage)

AIDS Council of New South Wales, Ethics Review Committee
(Garrett Prestage)

AIDS Council of New South Wales, HIV and Sexually Transmissible Infections Working Group
(Garrett Prestage)

AIDS Editorial Board
(Andrew Grulich)

Anex Research Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Antiretroviral Guidelines Panel
(Fraser Drummond)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, *ASHM Journal Club* Editorial Committee
(Lisa Maher)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Education and Training Committee
(Sarah Pett)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, *Hepatitis B for Primary Care Providers Monograph* Editorial Committee
(Gail Matthews)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, National Clinical Subcommittee
(Fraser Drummond)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, NSW Hepatitis C Prescriber Trial Clinical Subcommittee
(Greg Dore)

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Standing Committee on Viral Hepatitis
(Greg Dore, Chair; Lisa Maher)

Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS) Coordinating Committee
(Basil Donovan, John Kaldor)

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Biomedical Prevention Policy Reference Group
(Andrew Grulich, Garrett Prestage)

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Indigenous Intravenous Drug Users Project Reference Group
(Lisa Maher)

- Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Chlamydia Program Implementation Committee (Basil Donovan, Andrew Grulich)
- Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, HIV Epidemiology Project Steering Committee (John Kaldor)
- Australian Hepatitis Council Health Reference Group (Lisa Maher)
- Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League, National Hepatitis C Treatments Campaign Advisory Committee (Lisa Maher)
- Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League, Vietnamese Hepatitis C and Injecting Drug Use Project Reference Group (Lisa Maher)
- Australian Society of Immunology Conference, Abstract Review Committee (Nabila Seddiki)
- Australian Society of Immunology Conference, Poster Judging Committee (Nabila Seddiki)
- Centre for AIDS Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Special Emphasis Panel (David Cooper)
- Coalition for Research to Improve Aboriginal Health Scientific Advisory Committee (James Ward)
- Cochrane Collaborative Review Group on HIV infection and AIDS, Biomedical Interventions Reviews Editor (John Kaldor)
- Communicable Diseases Intelligence* Editorial Board (John Kaldor)
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (John Kaldor)
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Surveillance Working Party (John Kaldor)
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia, New Developments in HIV Surveillance Committee (John Kaldor, Chair)
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia, Subcommittee on Surveillance of Bloodborne Viral and Sexually Transmitted Infections (John Kaldor)
- Comprehensive International Program for Research on AIDS (CIPRA) HIV Research Program in Thailand and Cambodia International Steering Committee (David Cooper, John Kaldor)
- Current HIV/AIDS Reports* Editorial Board (David Cooper, Honorary Member)
- Current Opinion in HIV and AIDS* (David Cooper, Co-Editor)
- Current Opinion in HIV and AIDS* Editorial Board (John Kaldor)
- Drug and Alcohol Review* Editorial Board (Lisa Maher)
- eJournal of the International AIDS Society* Editorial Board (John Kaldor)
- Enhancing Hepatitis C Treatment Uptake and Outcomes in Opiate Dependency Pharmacotherapy Settings Steering Committee (*ex officio*) (John Kaldor)
- Expert Working Group to provide advice on Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing-funded HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C and sexually transmissible infections education and health promotion materials (John Kaldor)
- Future HIV Therapy* Editorial Board (David Cooper, John Kaldor)
- Harm Reduction Journal* Editorial Board (Lisa Maher)
- Hepatitis C Council of NSW Medical Research Advisory Panel (Greg Dore, John Kaldor)
- HIV DART 2008 Conference Organising Committee (David Cooper)
- HIV Modelling in Victoria 1995–2010 Working Group (David Regan)
- HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT) (David Cooper, Co-Director)
- HIV Netherlands, Australia, Thailand Research Collaboration (HIV-NAT) International Advisory Board (Chris Ducombe)
- IeDEA Cancer Working Group (Matthew Law)
- IeDEA Data Harmonization Working Group (Jialun Zhou)
- IeDEA Executive Committee (David Cooper, Matthew Law)
- IeDEA Pharmacovigilance and Adverse Events Working Group (Jialun Zhou)
- Immunovirology Research Network Steering Committee (Anthony Kelleher)
- INITIO Trial Coordinating Committee (David Cooper, Co-Chair; Dianne Carey, Sean Emery)
- INSIGHT network, Executive Committee (David Cooper, Sean Emery)

INSIGHT network, Monitoring Group Committee
(David Courtney-Rogers, Nisha Seneviratne)

INSIGHT network, Quality Oversight and Performance Evaluation Committee
(David Courtney-Rogers)

International Consortium of Investigators Working on Lymphoma Epidemiologic Studies (InterLymph), Immunology Working Group
(Andrew Grulich, Co-Chair)

International Journal of Drug Policy Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)

International Journal of STD & AIDS Editorial Board
(Basil Donovan)

International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections, Executive Committee
(Basil Donovan, Senior Counsellor)

Johnson & Johnson Institutional Biosafety Committee
(Anthony Kelleher)

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

Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice International Advisory Board
(Lisa Maher)

Journal of Drug Issues Editorial Board
(Lisa Maher)

Journal of HIV Medicine Editorial Board
(Andrew Grulich)

Journal of HIV Therapy Current Trends Advisory Board
(David Cooper)

Lotus House Refuge Management Committee
(Lisa Maher)

Medicine Today Board of Editorial Consultants
(Basil Donovan)

MIMS Annual Honorary Editorial Board
(Basil Donovan)

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

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

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

Monitoring the AIDS Pandemic (MAP) Network, Monitoring the Impact of Responses to the HIV Epidemic: Measuring Waves of Change, Giving Substance to Waves of Hope Symposium Organising Committee
(John Kaldor)

Monitoring the AIDS Pandemic (MAP) Steering Committee
(John Kaldor)

Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service Advisory Group
(Lisa Maher, Chair)

National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, HIV Medication Working Group
(Dianne Carey)

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs (NCHADS), Steering Committee for Cambodian Treatment Access Program and AusAID-funded HIV projects
(David Cooper, John Kaldor)

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, Lisa Maher)

National Hepatitis C Treatments Campaign Advisory Committee
(Lisa Maher)

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Health Promotion Workshop Steering Committee
(John Kaldor, James Ward)

National working group to develop nationally consistent guidelines for the management of individuals who knowingly place others at risk of HIV infection
(John Kaldor)

NHMRC Grant Review Panel 5a (Public Health)
(Lisa Maher)

NHMRC Post Doctoral Fellowship Assessment Panel
(Lisa Maher)

NHMRC Review Panel on Special Program Grants on Type 1 Diabetes
(John Kaldor)

NHMRC Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Advisory Committee (TSEAC)
(John Kaldor)

NSW Aboriginal Sexual Health Advisory Committee
(James Ward, Chair)

NSW Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting Organising Committee
(Fraser Drummond)

NSW Department of Corrective Services Ethics Committee
(John Kaldor)

NSW Health Department, Medically Supervised Injecting Centre Evaluation Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

NSW Health Shared Scientific Assessment Committee
(Fraser Drummond)

NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis
(Greg Dore, James Ward)

NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmissible Infections
(James Ward)

NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmissible Infections, Health Promotion Subcommittee
(Andrew Grulich, Chair)

NSW Users and AIDS Association Water Project Steering Committee
(Lisa Maher)

People Living with HIV/AIDS (NSW) Board Advisory Group
(Garrett Prestage)

Practical Advances in Treating HIV (PATH II) Steering Committee
(Sean Emery, Chair)

Primary Infection Advisory Committee
(John Kaldor)

Proposal to Improve the Sexual Health of Young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People Steering Group
(John Kaldor, James Ward)

ProPrems Trial Data Safety Monitoring Committee
(John Kaldor)

Repatriation Medical Authority
(John Kaldor)

Sexual Health
(David Cooper, Editor)

Sexual Health Editorial Board
(Basil Donovan, Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)

Sexually Transmitted Infections Editorial Board
(David Cooper)

SMART Executive Committee
(David Cooper, Sean Emery)

SPARTAC Trial Steering Committee
(David Cooper, John Kaldor, Anthony Kelleher)

St Vincent's Hospital Clinical School Teaching Committee
(Fraser Drummond)

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

St Vincent's Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee
(Claire Vajdic, Deputy Chair from March; Matthew Law)

STD/HIV Subcommittee of the Central Australian Disease Control Coordinating Committee
(John Kaldor)

Steering Committee for NHMRC grant under the International Collaborative Indigenous Health Research Partnership
(John Kaldor)

Sydney HIV Interagency
(Garrett Prestage)

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

TREAT Asia Steering Committee
(David Cooper)

UNSW Faculty of Medicine Research Committee, Bachelor of Science (Medicine) Subcommittee
(Greg Dore)

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

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

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

Vision Cooperative Research Centre and Institute for Eye Research Human Ethics Committee
(Claire Vajdic, Chair)

Vivagel™ Microbicide Development Consortium Board
(John Kaldor)

Workshop series on HIV and Overseas Work Organising Committee
(John Kaldor)

World Health Organisation Strategic and Technical Advisory Committee for HIV/AIDS
(David Cooper)

World Health Organisation/UNAIDS HIV Vaccine Advisory Committee
(David Cooper, Chair)

XVIII World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS), 1st World Congress for Sexual Health, Local WAS Scientific Committee
(Basil Donovan, Andrew Grulich)



Consulting

Advisor on health outcomes in atomic bomb test participants, UK Government, UK
(John Kaldor)

Antiretrovirals for HIV: A compilation of facts and product information, World Health Organisation Regional Office for South East Asia, Delhi, India
(Chris Duncombe, Contributor)

Consensus workshop on HIV in Cambodia, World Health Organisation, Cambodia
(John Kaldor)

Development of HIV surveillance plan for Papua New Guinea, World Health Organisation, Papua New Guinea
(John Kaldor)

Evaluating the cost-effectiveness of the NSW HIV Strategy, NSW Health Department, Sydney
(Matthew Iaw)

Expansion of the "Three Ones" AIDS coordination model: Support for strengthening the capacity of HIV prevention programs (including harm reduction): World Health Organisation/UNAIDS, Vietnam
(Lisa Maher, Jenny Iversen)

Guidelines for HIV voluntary counselling and testing: A manual for provider and client initiated counselling and testing, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Vientiane, Laos Peoples' Democratic Republic
(Chris Duncombe)

Guidelines for the clinical management of HIV infection in adults and adolescents, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Yangon, Myanmar
(Chris Duncombe)

Guidelines for the clinical management of HIV infection in children, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Yangon, Myanmar
(Chris Duncombe)

Management of HIV infection and antiretroviral therapy in adults and adolescents, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Vientiane, Laos Peoples' Democratic Republic
(Chris Duncombe)

Management of HIV infection and antiretroviral therapy in adults and adolescents: A clinical manual, World Health Organisation Regional Office for South East Asia, Delhi, India
(Chris Duncombe)

Management of HIV infection and antiretroviral therapy in children, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Vientiane, Laos Peoples' Democratic Republic
(Chris Duncombe)

Successful AusAID, DIFID and European Union Three Disease Fund (3D) application to establish antiretroviral clinics in three districts in Myanmar, Myanmar NGO Consortium on HIV/AIDS (Save the Children Fund, CARE International, Marie Stopes International and Myanmar Nurses Association), Yangon, Myanmar
(Chris Duncombe)

National AIDS/STD prevention and control programme, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Yangon, Myanmar
(Chris Duncombe)

Review of turning point alcohol and drug centre, Robert Griew Pty Ltd, Melbourne
(John Kaldor)



Education and training

Students supervised or co-supervised by NCHECR personnel

Supervisor(s) in brackets

Activities of students whose primary supervisor is an NCHECR staff member are listed in this report under *External Boards, Committees and advisory groups; Education and training; Publications and Presentations at conferences and meetings.*

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (Hons) candidate

Kai Brown

Describing T-cell repertoires amongst antigen-specific T-regulatory cells

(Anthony Kelleher, Nabila Seddiki)

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery awarded (Independent Learning Project supervision)

Gerard Moynihan

Effect of therapy at primary HIV infection on long term outcomes

(Anthony Kelleher, Tim Ramacciotti)

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery candidate (Independent Learning Project supervision)

Adam Honeybrook

Assessment of risk behaviour in subjects receiving antiretroviral therapy

(Chris Duncombe, John Kaldor)

Amy Julian

Co-morbidity among clients of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre: A prospective review

(Lisa Maher, Allison Salmon)

Song Yui Lee

AIDS and identity: A cross cultural perspective

(Garrett Prestage)

Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) awarded (Empirical Research Project supervision)

Brian Skepper (The University of Western Sydney)

Men's subjective experience of consenting to undesired sexual activity in long term heterosexual relationships

(Julie Mooney-Somers)

Bachelor of Science (Hons) awarded

Yuan Gao

Characterisation of CD4+ T-cell subset containing integrated HIV-1 DNA

(Anthony Kelleher)

Doctor of Medicine candidate

Sarah Pett

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

(David Cooper, Sean Emery, Anthony Kelleher)

Doctor of Philosophy awarded

Janaki Amin

Hepatitis B and C associated cancer and mortality in New South Wales 1990-2002

(Matthew Law, Greg Dore)

Paddy Mallon

Clinical and molecular aspects of HIV-associated lipodystrophy

(Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper)

Joanne Micallef

Natural history of newly acquired hepatitis C infection

(Greg Dore, John Kaldor)

Fatemeh Nakhaee

Modelling survival following HIV and AIDS in Australia in the era of HAART

(Matthew Law)

Jialun Zhou

HIV/AIDS natural history and treatment in the Asia-Pacific region: TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database

(Matthew Law, Greg Dore)

Doctor of Philosophy candidates

Jonathan Anderson

The role of economic evaluation in decision-making about HIV

(David Cooper, Sean Emery, Kathy Petoumenos)

Wari Allison

Diagnosis and treatment of paediatric HIV infection in a resource limited setting

(John Kaldor, Matthew Law)

David van Bockel

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

(Anthony Kelleher)

Michael Burke

Factors influencing participation in prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV programs in Tanzania, East Africa

(John Kaldor)

Helen Byakwaga

Antiretroviral therapy and the management of HIV/AIDS
(Sean Emery, David Cooper, Mark Boyd)

Alexandra Calmy

Prevention and management of long term toxicities of antiretroviral treatment
(David Cooper, Matthew Law)

Dianne Carey

Optimising therapeutic outcomes in HIV-infected subjects
(Sean Emery)

Heidi Coupland

Prevention and management of hepatitis C infection among Indo-Chinese injecting drug users
(Lisa Maher)

Oliver Distler

Molecular and cellular mechanisms for HIV protease inhibitor associated hyperlipidaemia
(David Cooper)

Katie Edwards

Epidemiological studies of contact lens related infection
(John Kaldor)

Julian Elliott

Expanded use of antiretroviral therapy in resource-limited settings
(John Kaldor, David Cooper)

Jacqueline Flynn (Monash University)

The stimulation and maintenance of T-cell responses in acute hepatitis C infection
(Greg Dore)

Rashmi Fotedar

The molecular epidemiology of gonorrhoea in Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Kathleen Glenday

Longitudinal studies of HIV infection
(Matthew Law, Basil Donovan)

Rachel Green (Curtin University of Technology)

An ethnographic study of psychostimulant drug use and related harms among young people in Perth
(Lisa Maher)

Rebecca Guy

The use of routine HIV testing data as a basis for planning and evaluating public health interventions
(Andrew Grulich)

Peter Higgs (Monash University)

Exploring risk: A study of ethnic Vietnamese heroin users
(Lisa Maher)

Alexander Hoare

Modelling HIV/AIDS epidemics in South East Asia
(David Wilson)

Jeff Hudson (The University of Sydney)

Fluidsexuality: Married men who have sex with men
(Garrett Prestage)

Susan Hudson

Exploring the experiences of street-based sex workers who inject psychostimulants
(Lisa Maher)

Stephen Lambert (The University of Queensland)

A study of *Chlamydia trachomatis* in the Australian Defence Force
(Basil Donovan)

Heidi Lim

Effect of nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors on apidocyte mitochondrial function
(Anthony Kelleher, Paddy Mallon)

Gail Matthews

Therapeutic strategies in HIV/viral hepatitis coinfection
(Greg Dore, David Cooper)

Ann Mijch (Monash University)

Measuring and managing HIV virological failure
(John Kaldor)

Mee-Ling Munier

CD4 T-cells in primary HIV infection
(Anthony Kelleher)

Van Thi Thuy Nguyen

Hepatitis B natural history and liver disease burden among Vietnamese populations in Thai Binh province and Australia
(Greg Dore, Matthew Law)

Jody O'Connor

The law and sex worker health
(Basil Donovan)

Rebecca Oyomopito

HIV-1 drug resistance in treatment-naïve and combination antiretroviral therapy exposed patients in Asia
(Matthew Law)

Mary Poynten

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

Karina Razali

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

Allison Salmon

Evaluation of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre
(Lisa Maher, 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

Evaluating CD4 cell count and HIV viral load monitoring strategies in patients commencing antiretroviral treatment
(Matthew Law)

Sanjay Swaminathan

siRNA transcription: Silencing of HIV by siRNA
(Anthony Kelleher)

David Templeton

Interventions to reduce HIV transmission in homosexual men
(Andrew Grulich, Basil Donovan)

Marina van Leeuwen

Cancer in people with acquired and iatrogenic immune deficiency
(Claire Vajdic, Andrew Grulich)

Chris Weatherall

Characterisation of B-lymphocyte responses in primary HIV infection-neutralising antibodies and immune tolerance
(Anthony Kelleher, David Cooper)

Doctor of Public Health candidate**Catherine O'Connor (The University of Sydney)**

The sexual health of ethnic communities in the inner western suburbs of Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Master of Biomedical Science awarded (practicum supervision)**Louise Dekker (Vrije University, The Netherlands)**

Pharmacokinetics of baby dose ritonavir in combination with different protease inhibitors in different dose regimens in Thai HIV-1 infected patients
(Chris Duncombe)

Master of Applied Epidemiology (Indigenous Health) candidate**Simon Graham (Australian National University)**

(John Kaldor)

Master of International Public Health awarded (practicum supervision)**Cecilia de Bustos (Vrije University, The Netherlands)**

Efficacy and safety of two different doses of zidovudine as part of combination antiretroviral therapy, compared to a stavudine-containing regimen as control
(Chris Duncombe)

Sabine Heus (Vrije University, The Netherlands)

Pharmacokinetics of baby dose ritonavir in combination with different protease inhibitors in different dose regimens in Thai HIV-1 infected patients
(Chris Duncombe)

Master of Public Health by research awarded**Arunthia Zaidi Urni**

Assessment of stigma, discrimination and violence associated with the disclosure of HIV positive serostatus: Service providers perspective
(Garrett Prestage)

Course coordination

Current Research and Translational Research Issues in Basic, Clinical and Prevention Science Education Programme, Sydney
(Rebekah Puls)

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

Public Health Surveillance and Evaluation, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Regional Training Program, Sydney
(John Kaldor)

Rational Drug Use, Graduate Programme in Social and Administrative Pharmacy, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
(Stephen Kerr)

Registrars' Trainee Seminar Series, Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine, The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Teaching

Advanced HIV Infection, Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Dianne Carey, Anthony Kelleher)

An epidemiological approach to the critical appraisal of clinical evidence, short courses to the pharmaceutical industry, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich)

Communicable Disease Control, Master of Medicine (Infection and Immunity) Course, The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Critical Appraisal and Professional Reading, Bachelor of Pharmacy, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand
(Stephen Kerr)

- Descriptive Statistics, School of Safety Science, UNSW, Sydney
(Kathy Petoumenos)
- Empirical Research Methods, Year 4 Psychology, The University of Western Sydney, Sydney
(Julie Mooney-Somers)
- Global Perspectives on HIV/AIDS, Master of Health/Master of International Public Health, University of Queensland, Brisbane
(John Kaldor)
- HIV Clinical Care Meeting for General Practitioners, Canberra
(Sarah Pett)
- HIV Medicine Interactive Session (St Vincent's Hospital), Year 6 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(David Cooper)
- HIV S100 Prescribers Course, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Sarah Pett)
- HIV S100 Prescribers Update, Canberra
(Sarah Pett)
- HIV/AIDS: Australian and International Responses, Master of Public Health, UNSW, Sydney
(Mark Boyd, Greg Dore, Andrew Grulich, Anthony Kelleher, Gail Matthews, Garrett Prestage, Rebekah Puls)
- Immunology 1, Bachelor of Science, UNSW, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)
- Immunology 2, Bachelor of Science, UNSW, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)
- Immunology 3, Bachelor of Science, UNSW, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)
- Indonesia-Australia Specialised Training Project in Drug Prevention in Australia, Sydney
(John Kaldor)
- In service training for nursing and ancillary staff, Clinical Service Unit, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)
- Infectious Diseases Trainees Course, Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Gail Matthews)
- International Short Course in HIV Medicine, Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Sarah Huffam)
- Introductory Course in Hepatitis C for Pharmacotherapy Practitioners, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Greg Dore)
- Introductory Program to HIV and Viral Hepatitis, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
(Greg Dore)
- Membership Course, The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)
- Modelling Infectious Diseases: Epidemiology, School of Mathematics, UNSW, Sydney
(David Regan)
- National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs Social Health Clinic Staff Training Program, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
(Sarah Huffam)
- Nursing Course in Advanced Hepatitis C, Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Gail Matthews)
- One Day Course in Hepatitis C Medicine, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Greg Dore, Gail Matthews)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Epidemiology: an Overview, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(John Kaldor)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Hepatitis C, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Greg Dore)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Infection Control, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Dianne Carey)
- Post Registration Nursing Course in Sexual Health and Venereology, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Janaki Amin, Basil Donovan, Dianne Carey, Greg Dore, Andrew Grulich)
- Public Health Aspects of HIV/AIDS, Master of Public Health/Master of International Public Health/Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Andrew Grulich, John Kaldor)
- Public Health Surveillance and Evaluation, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Regional Training Program, Sydney
(John Kaldor)
- Rational Drug Use, Graduate Programme in Social and Administrative Pharmacy, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
(Stephen Kerr)
- Registrars' Trainee Seminar Series, Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine, The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Sexual Health Medicine 2, Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(David Regan)

Short Course in Viral Hepatitis, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Libby Topp)

Short Course in HIV Infection Laboratory Diagnosis and Monitoring, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)

Short Course in HIV Medicine for Community Representatives, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Fraser Drummond)

Short Course in Science of HIV and the Principles and Practice of Testing, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
(Anthony Kelleher)

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) Cancer Training, Hanoi, Vietnam
(Andrew Grulich)

Tutoring

Clinical Attachment, Master of Medicine (Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV), The University of Sydney, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Clinical Teaching (St Vincent's Clinical School), Phase 1 Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Fraser Drummond)

Clinical training for physicians and nurses from Myanmar, HIV-NAT, Bangkok, Thailand
(Chris Duncombe)

Critical Appraisal and Professional Reading, Bachelor of Pharmacy, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand
(Stephen Kerr)

Patient Counseling, Bachelor of Pharmacy, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
(Stephen Kerr)

Registrars' Trainee Seminar Series, Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine, The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)

Undergraduate Medicine, UNSW, Sydney
(Basil Donovan)



Funding for 2007

All amounts listed are in Australian dollars.

Names of funding 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 2007 to fund the activities and administration of NCHECR.

Core allocation	4,035,562
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Additional Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing grants

The Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS) Project	89,275
Increasing access to hepatitis C treatment through opiate dependency settings	159,740

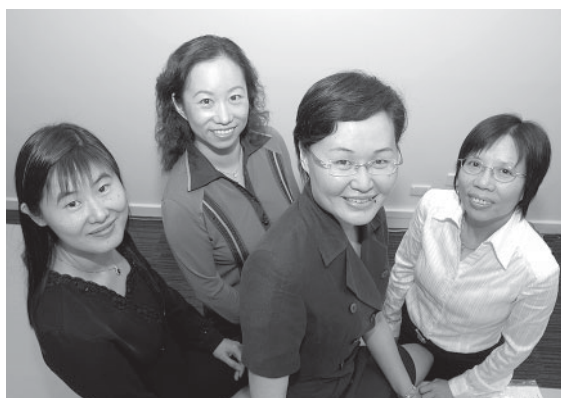
Other grants and contracts from public sources

American Foundation for AIDS Research:	
TREAT Asia Studies to Evaluate Resistance	144,573
TREAT Asia Quality Assurance Scheme	108,326
Support for special analyses of epidemiological and clinical HIV research	55,803
AusAID: Cambodia HIV/AIDS antiretroviral therapy project	243,137
Australian Research Council: Allocating scarce HIV/AIDS antiretroviral drugs in resource-constrained countries	34,688
Cancer Institute of NSW:	
Cancer in people with primary, acquired and iatrogenic immunodeficiency	25,000
Defining immune dysregulation cohorts at risk of cancer	50,000
European Medicines Evaluation Agency: Data Collection on Adverse Events of Anti-HIV Drugs Study	3,593
Health Administration Corporation: Men who have sex with men at high risk of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections	28,769
Health Outcomes International Pty Ltd: NSW HIV Economic Evaluation Project	30,000
Leukaemia Foundation Australia: A pooled analysis of studies of immune risk factors for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	42,500
Medical Research Council, UK: SPARTAC Study	219,833
NHMRC:	
Prospective study to examine the effectiveness and safety of antivirals against pandemic influenza	10,000
International Collaborative Indigenous Health Research Partnership Grant	407,327
Practitioner Fellowship for Anthony Kelleher	69,300
Public Health (Australia) Fellowship for Claire Vajdic	56,225
The Health Impact of Prostitution Laws	154,885
The interaction between sexually transmissible infections and human immunodeficiency virus infection in homosexual men	188,482
SiRNA induced TGS of retroviruses	122,975

(continued next page...)

Other grants and contracts from public sources (…continued from previous page)

NHMRC – Program Grant Subcontract:	
University of Melbourne: HIV infection – immunology and vaccine design	370,911
University of Sydney: Mathematical modelling for improved planning of infectious disease control policy	64,000
NSW Department of State and Regional Development, Office for Science and Medical Research: Infrastructure Funding	2,000,000
NSW Health Department:	
Australian Chronic Hepatitis C Observational Study	158,136
Expert services in HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible diseases	100,000
Evaluation of the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre Phase 2	71,800
Queensland Health: Study of risk factors for HIV seroconversion	27,273
University of Minnesota: SILCAAT Study	286,363
US National Institutes of Health:	
HIV Vaccine Design and Development Team Contract	145,433
Longitudinal cohort of newly acquired hepatitis C infection	455,009
Safety and pharmacokinetics of tenofovir and emtricitabine in HIV negative Thai women	163,880
US National Institutes of Health Subcontract:	
American Foundation for AIDS Research:	
The Asia-Pacific HIV Observational Database	20,629
TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database	205,771
TREAT Asia Paediatric HIV Observational Database	15,579
Johns Hopkins University: Liver disease and HIV-hepatitis B coinfection in the HAART era	38,805
Massachusetts General Hospital: AIEDRP Study	894,427
Social and Scientific Systems: SMART Study	816,266
Starpharma Holdings Ltd: Microbicide Design and Development Teams	275,163
Thai Red Cross Research Centre: HIV research program in Thailand and Cambodia	114,507
University of Minnesota:	
ESPRIT Study	1,200,231
INSIGHT Study	195,623
STALWART Study	205,600



Teresa Wong, Patricia Xu, Gina Lam, Annie Tung

Pharmaceutical industry funding

Avexa Ltd	17,738
Boehringer Ingelheim Pty Ltd	17,476
CSL Limited	322,087
Gilead Science Inc	1,927,036
Janssen-Cilag Pty Ltd	42,083
Johnson & Johnson Research Pty Ltd	15,347
Merck Sharp & Dohme	170,688
Merck Co & Inc	40,000
Pfizer Inc via Quintiles Pty Ltd	45,289
F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd (Switzerland)	292,584
Roche Products Pty Ltd (Australia)	3,489,693
Schering-Plough Research Institute	208,223
Tibotec Pharmaceuticals Ltd via Quintiles Pty Ltd	20,269
Tibotec Pharmaceuticals Ltd via PPD Australia Pty Ltd	17,607
Virax Holdings Pty Ltd	10,000



Disclosure of financial and other relationships with industry

As noted under *Funding for 2007* (see page 81), NCHECR 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 2007.

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 NCHECR's research program during 2007.

Abbreviated forms of the company names have been used for ease of recognition.

David Cooper

Abbott
Avexa
Boehringer-Ingelheim
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Gilead
GlaxoSmithKline
Janssen-Cilag
Johnson & Johnson
Merck
Monogram Sciences
Pfizer
Roche
Virax

Basil Donovan

CSL

Greg Dore

Bristol-Myers Squibb
Gilead
Roche
Novartis
Janssen-Cilag

Fraser Drummond

GlaxoSmithKline
Novartis

Chris Duncombe

Boehringer Ingelheim
Johnson & Johnson
Roche

Andrew Grulich

CSL
GlaxoSmithKline

Anthony Kelleher

CSL
GlaxoSmithKline
Merck

Matthew Law

CSL
Janssen-Cilag
Johnson & Johnson
Roche

Sarah Pett

Boehringer-Ingelheim
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Gilead
GlaxoSmithKline
Janssen-Cilag
Merck
ScheringPlough

David Regan

CSL

Sean Emery

Bristol-Myers Squibb
Gilead
Janssen-Cilag
NeuroMolecular Pharmaceuticals
RDI
Roche
Virax



Presentations at conferences and meetings

Conference oral presentations*

Allison WE. Predictors of HIV testing and serostatus amongst children admitted to Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea. *43rd Annual Medical Symposium, Papua New Guinea Medical Society.* Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Carey D, Baker D, Easey N, **Petoumenos K,** **Emery S,** Chuah J, Machon K, Rogers G, **Cooper DA,** Carr A for the Facial Lipoatrophy Study in HIV (FLASH) investigators. Poly-L-lactic acid injections for facial lipoatrophy: A randomised, multicentre trial. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.

Cooksley G, Roberts S, **Dore GJ,** Robson S, Shaw D, Berns H, Brandl S, Fettner S, Hill G, Ipe D, Klumpp K, Mannino M, Mara EO, Najera I, Tu Y, Washington C. R1626, a novel nucleoside analogue targeting hepatitis C polymerase in chronic hepatitis things if me genotype 1 patients. *17th Conference of the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver.* Kyoto, Japan.

Cooper DA. A community's experience of hope. The journey of HIV and healing through acceptance, compassion and dignity. *St Vincent's Hospital Spirituality and Healing Conference.* Sydney.

Cooper DA. Do novel antiretroviral treatment strategies have a role in long-term therapy of HIV infection? *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.

Day C, **Iversen JL,** **Topp L,** **Maher L.** A decade of HIV surveillance among injecting drug users in Australia: Results from the Australian Needle and Syringe Program Survey. *Combined Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference.* Auckland, New Zealand.

Day C, **Iversen JL,** **Topp L,** **Maher L.** A decade of HIV surveillance among injecting drug users in Australia: Results from the Australian Needle and Syringe Program Survey. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Donovan B. Genital chlamydia infection: Clinical and epidemiological aspects. *National Chlamydia Conference.* Brisbane.

Donovan B. Oral sex is an oxymoron. *18th World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health.* Sydney.

Donovan B. Sexually transmitted infections in sex workers: When is it safe to return to work? *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007.* Gold Coast, Qld.

Donovan B. The Australasian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS) Project in sexual health services. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007.* Gold Coast, Qld.

Dore GJ. Acute hepatitis C: When to treat and with what? *Australian Gastroenterology Week.* Perth.

Dore GJ. Chronic viral hepatitis: If we have the drugs, can it be cured? *10th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine.* Bangkok, Thailand.

Dore GJ. Hepatitis and liver cancer prevention. *General Practitioner Conference and Exhibition.* Sydney.

Dore GJ. HIV and hepatitis coinfection. *Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases Annual Scientific Meeting.* Hobart.

Dore GJ, Soriano V, Neuhaus J, Peters L, Puoti M, Rockstroh J, Klein M, Tedaldi E, Mocroft A, Clotet B, Lundgren for the SMART Study Group and INSIGHT. Higher rate of antiretroviral therapy reinitiation among HIV-hepatitis B virus coinfecting patients in the episodic therapy arm of the SMART Study. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Elliott JH, Sarun S, Chin S, Chan D, Chel S, **Huffam S,** Oelrichs R, Hun C, Pouv S, Teng KH, Teng H, Saphonn V, **Kaldor JM,** **Cooper DA,** French M, Mean CV. Tuberculosis-associated immune restoration disease is associated with increased PPD-specific T-cell responses detected by a whole blood interferon gamma release assay. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Emery S. Challenges of clinical research trials in special populations. *NHMRC Third International Clinical Trials Symposium.* Sydney.

Emery S. Pros and cons of early antiretroviral therapy. *10th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine.* Bangkok, Thailand.

Falster MO, **Law M,** **Gulich AE,** **Vajdic CM.** Methodological issues associated with pooling of case-control study data with sparse exposure prevalence. *Joint Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiology Association and International Epidemiological Association Western Pacific Region.* Hobart.

* This section includes presentations on which an NCHECR staff member was the presenting author, apart from presentations made at the *4th International AIDS Society Conference on Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention* and the *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections* for which all authorships are noted.

Grulich AE. Circumcision and risk of HIV seroconversion in the HIM cohort of homosexual men in Sydney. *17th International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research Conference.* Seattle, USA.

Hudson JH, **Prestage GP**, Weerakoon P, Lee G. The married men who have sex with men study (M2M Study): An outline of findings. *18th World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health.* Sydney.

Hudson JH, **Prestage GP**, Weerakoon P, Lee G. The married men who have sex with men study (M2M Study): Recruitment strategies used to understand issues, optimize healthcare and inform the community. *18th World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health.* Sydney.

Hudson S, Maher L. Lay epidemiology and risk prioritisation among street-based sex workers who inject psychostimulants. *Combined Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference.* Auckland, New Zealand.

Jin F, Prestage GP, Imrie JCG, Kippax SC, Pell CM, **Donovan B, Templeton DJ**, Cunningham PH, Cunningham AL, Mindel A, **Kaldor JM, Grulich AE.** Anal sexually transmissible infections as risk factors for HIV seroconversion: Data from the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *17th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research.* Seattle, USA.

Jin F, Prestage GP, Imrie JCG, Kippax SC, Pell CM, **Donovan B, Templeton DJ**, Cunningham PH, Cunningham AL, Mindel A, **Kaldor JM, Grulich AE.** Anal sexually transmissible infections as risk factors for HIV seroconversion: Data from the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007.* Gold Coast, Qld.

Jommaroeng R, Chaitiamrus S, Aporonpong T, Phanuphak N, Stein E, Phanupak P, Page-Shafer K, **Kaldor JM.** Willingness to participate in HIV prevention trials is high among FSW, MSM, youth, and IDU in Bangkok, Thailand. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Kaldor JM. Positive prevention. *10th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine.* Bangkok, Thailand.

Kaldor JM. The role and context of microbicides. *Australian Microbicide Symposium.* Sydney.

Kaldor JM, McDonald AM, Guy RJ. Divergent trends in HIV diagnoses in Australia. *Communicable Diseases Control Conference 2007.* Canberra.

Law MG. AIDS in Asia and the Pacific Rim. *NeuroAIDS in Asia and the Pacific Rim.* Sydney.

Maher L, Ho H, Pham A. Co vay, Co tra: Vulnerability to blood-borne viral infection among ethnic Vietnamese injecting drug users in Australia. *18th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm.* Warsaw, Poland.

Mao L, Imrie J, **Prestage GP, Grulich AE, Donovan B, Kaldor JM**, Kippax S. Does circumcision make a difference to the sexual experience of gay men? Findings from the Health in Men (HIM) cohort. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007.* Gold Coast, Qld.

Matthews G, Avihingsanon A, Lewin SR, Amin J, Rerknimitr R, Petcharat P, Marks P, Sasadeusz J, Cooper DA, Bowden S, Locarnini S, Ruxrungtham K, Dore GJ. A randomized study of tenofovir containing HAART compared to lamivudine containing HAART in antiretroviral-naïve HIV/hepatitis B-coinfected patients in Thailand: 48 week findings. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

McDonald A, Cunningham P, Kelleher AD, Kaldor JM. Use of a detuned assay to monitor HIV transmission in NSW, 1998–2005. *Communicable Diseases Control Conference.* Canberra.

McDonald A, Kaldor JM for the Collaborative Group on Sentinel Surveillance in Sexual Health Clinics. Monitoring HIV transmission among men seen at metropolitan sexual health clinics in Australia, 1997–2006. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007.* Gold Coast, Qld.

McDonald A, Zurynski Y, Nadew K, Elliott E, Kaldor JM, Ziegler J. Perinatal exposure to HIV – what have we learned from 12 years of surveillance? *Royal Australasian College of Physicians Congress.* Melbourne.

McDonald A, Zurynski Y, Nadew K, Elliott E, Kaldor JM, Ziegler J. Prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission in Australia, 1982-2005. *Royal Australasian College of Physicians Congress.* Melbourne.

Murray J, **Emery SE, Kelleher AD, Law MG, Hazuda D, Nguyen B-Y, Tepler H, Cooper DA.** The integrase inhibitor raltegravir alters viral decay kinetics of HIV, significantly reducing the second phase and challenging current hypotheses of viral replication. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Oyomopito RA. Treatment outcomes of HIV-infected patients in low-income and high-income countries in the Asia Pacific. *UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine, Postgraduate Research Student Conference.* Sydney.

Paull J, Chen M, **Millwood I, Wand H, Poynten M, Law MG, Kaldor JM**, Wesselingh S, Price C, Heery G, Clark L, Fairley C. SPL7013 Gel (VivaGel™), a topical microbicide in development for prevention of HIV and genital herpes, shown to be well tolerated and comparable with placebo after seven days administration in healthy males. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Phillips AN, Carr A, Neuhaus J, Visnegarwala F, Prineas R, Burman W, Williams I, **Drummond F**, Duprez D, Lundgren J and others for the SMART Study Group. Interruption of antiretroviral therapy and risk of cardiovascular Disease: Findings from SMART. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. Los Angeles, USA.

Prestage GP, Jin F, Kippax S, Donovan B, Templeton D, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE. Incidence and risk factors for anal infections in homosexual men: Gonorrhoea, chlamydia and warts. *Health in Difference Conference 2007*. Brisbane.

Prestage GP, Jin F, Zablotska I, Frankland A, Imrie J, Grulich AE. Trends in HIV prevalence among gay men. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007*. Gold Coast, Qld.

Prestage GP, Zablotska I, Frankland A, Imrie J, Grulich AE. Testing for sexually transmissible infections among gay men in Sydney, Australia. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007*. Gold Coast, Qld.

Regan D, Wilson D, Hocking JS. Developing a mathematical model for evaluating the impact of screening programs for chlamydia in Australia. *National Chlamydia Conference*. Brisbane.

Roberts S, Weltman M, Crawford D, Cheng W, Sievert W, McCaughan GW, Desmond PV, Yoshihara M, Miller JE, Depamphilis J, **Marks P, Dore GJ** on behalf of the CHARIOT Study Group. Rapid and early virological response rates are increased with 12 week 360ug/wk peginterferon alfa-2a (40KD) and standard ribavirin in hepatitis C genotype 1 treatment-naïve patients: Efficacy and safety analysis of the induction phase of the CHARIOT Study. *58th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases*. Boston, USA.

Salmon A, Dwyer R, **Jauncey M**, van Beek I, **Maher L**. Prevalence and predictors of self-reported HIV positive status among injecting drug users attending the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre. *Combined Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference*. Auckland, New Zealand.

Saphonn V, Page-Shafer K, **Kaldor JM**, Kaoeun C, Mam S, Sim S, Olrich R, Stein E, Mom C, Mean CV. Risk factors and HIV incidence among voluntary counselling and testing site clients in Phnom Penh, Cambodia: 2006. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.



Lisa Howard, Charles Tran

Seddiki N, Sasson S, Munier MLC, Van Bockel D, Zaunders J, Marriot D, **Pett SL, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD**. Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Seddiki N, Sasson S, Munier MLC, van Bockel D, Zaunders J, Marriot D, **Pett SL, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD**. Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *17th St Vincent's & Mater Health Research Symposium*. Sydney.

Tedaldi E, Puoti M, Neuhaus J, Peters L, Rockstroh J, Klein M, **Dore GJ**, Mocroft A, Soriano V, Clotet B, Lundgren J for the SMART Study Group and INSIGHT. Opportunistic disease and mortality in patients coinfecting with hepatitis C and/or hepatitis B in the SMART Study. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Templeton DJ, Jin F, Prestage GP, Donovan B, Imrie J, Kippax SC, Cunningham AL, Mindel A, **Kaldor JM, Grulich AE**. Circumcision status and risk of sexually transmitted infections in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort of homosexual men in Sydney, Australia. *17th International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research Conference*. Seattle, USA.

Templeton DJ, Jin F, Prestage GP, Donovan B, Imrie J, Kippax SC, **Kaldor JM, Grulich AE**. Circumcision status and risk of sexually transmitted infections in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort of homosexual men in Sydney, Australia. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007*. Gold Coast, Qld.

Templeton DJ, Jin F, Prestage GP, Donovan B, Imrie J, Kippax SC, **Kaldor JM, Grulich AE**. Circumcision status and risk of HIV seroconversion in the Health in Men (HIM) cohort of homosexual men in Sydney. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Templeton DJ, Jin F, Prestage GP, Donovan B, Kippax SC, McNally LP, Cunningham PH, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE. Pharyngeal gonorrhoea in the community-based Health in Men (HIM) cohort of homosexual men in Sydney, Australia. *23rd International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections Europe: Conference on Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS*. Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Thein H-H, Yi Q, **Dore GJ**, Krahn M. Natural history of hepatitis C virus infection in HIV-infected individuals in the era of HAART: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Topp L, Hudson S, Maher L. Crystalline methamphetamine ('ice') injection and associated outcomes in the street-based drug user subculture of Sydney's Kings Cross. *Combined Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference*. Auckland, New Zealand.

Vajdic CM. Cancer before and after kidney transplantation. *4th Annual World Summit on Organ Donation*. Detroit, USA.

Vajdic CM. Cancer in the renal failure population. *Transplantation Society New Key Opinion Leader Meeting*. Sydney.

Vajdic CM, Falster MO, Ekström-Smedby K, Martinez-Maza O, Engels E, Turner J, **Grulich AE,** Cozen W on behalf of the InterLymph Consortium. Autoimmune disorders and risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma subtypes: An international pooled analysis. *Joint Scientific Meeting of Australasian Epidemiology Association and International Epidemiological Association Western Pacific Region*. Hobart.

van Leeuwen MT. Risk factors for cancer of the lip in renal transplant recipients. *UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine Postgraduate Research Student Conference*. Sydney.

van Leeuwen MT, Vajdic CM, McDonald SP, McCredie MRE, Stewart JH, **Law MG,** Chapman JR, Webster AC, **Kaldor JM, Grulich AE.** Risk factors for cancer of the lip in renal transplant recipients. *Joint Scientific Meeting of Australasian Epidemiological Association and International Epidemiological Association Western Pacific Region*. Hobart.

Weatherall C, Siebentritt C, Campbell S, Purcell D, **Cooper DA, Kelleher A.** Acute sera from HIV seroconversion have both anti-HIV and anticardiolipin activity. *17th St Vincent's and Mater Health Research Symposium*. Sydney.

Zablotska I, Frankland A, **Prestage GP, Grulich AE,** Imrie J. Risk taking and safer sex practices in casual relationships between men. *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007*. Gold Coast, Qld.

Zablotska I, **Prestage GP, Grulich AE,** Imrie J, Kippax S. Can unprotected anal intercourse with regular and casual partners explain the diverging trends in the HIV epidemic in Australia? *Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2007*. Gold Coast, Qld.

Other oral presentations

Boyd MA. Antiretroviral toxicities. *Holdsworth House HIV and Sexual Health Mentor Program 2007*. Sydney.

Boyd MA. HIV - the global situation. *NCHECR Clinical Trial Network Research Coordinators Satellite Meeting*. Sydney.

Boyd MA. New research paradigms: Raltegravir in combination antiretroviral therapy. *NCHECR Combined Working Group Meeting*. Sydney.

Boyd MA. Second-line antiretroviral therapy in resource-limited settings: Getting it right through clinical research. 'Treatment Sustainability in the Era of Universal Access' - *World Health Organization, UNAIDS and the World Bank Satellite Symposium*. Sydney.

Boyd MA. The National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research at the University of NSW. *Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China Delegation Meeting*. Sydney.

Carey D. HIV pharmacology update. *Northern Rivers Sexual Health Service HIV Update Meeting*. Ballina, NSW.

Cooper DA. New HIV drugs in development. *St Vincent's Hospital, Centre for Immunology, HIV/ Infectious Diseases Immunology Journal Club*. Sydney.

Cooper DA. New therapies in HIV management. *Australasian Society of HIV Medicine HIV Community Prescriber Case Discussion Evening*. Sydney.

Cooper DA. Overview of the treatment of HIV/AIDS. *7th Annual TREAT Asia Network Meeting*. Hanoi, Vietnam.

Coupland H, Pham A, Day C, Maher L. One thing at a time: Indo-Chinese injecting drug users' decision-making about seeking hepatitis C treatment. *Beyond the Facts: Interrogating Hepatitis C Treatment Workshop*. Sydney.

Donovan B. Clinical research and treatment and care successes. "Doing it Down Under"- *Critical Reflections on Australia's HIV Response Satellite Symposium*. Sydney.

Donovan B. Sexually transmissible infections update. *Annual Hormone and Women's Health Update*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Advances in hepatitis C therapeutics. *St Vincent's Hospital, Centre for Immunology, HIV/ Infectious Diseases Immunology Journal Club*. Sydney.

Dore GJ. Hepatitis C monitoring and treatment. *Concord Seminars for Pharmacotherapy Prescribers*. Sydney.

- Dore GJ.** Increasing hepatitis C uptake and outcomes in pharmacotherapy settings. *Hepatitis C Multilateral Meeting*. Sydney.
- Dore GJ.** Management of hepatitis C in alcohol and other drugs services. *Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs Workshop*. Sydney.
- Emery S.** Therapeutic and Vaccine Research Program (TVRP) study outcomes and new trials. *NCHECR Clinical Trial Network Research Coordinators Satellite Meeting*. Sydney.
- Emery S.** Cytokines IL-2. *Translating Basic HIV Immunology into Novel Interventions Workshop*. Sydney.
- Emery S.** Serious clinical outcomes in antiretroviral-naïve patients in SMART: Biomarkers for non-AIDS events in HIV Infection. *National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Division of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome Workshop*. Arlington, USA.
- Emery S.** Serious clinical outcomes in antiretroviral-naïve patients in SMART: Serious non-AIDS conditions, a significant contribution to morbidity and mortality in HIV. *National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Division of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome Workshop*. Arlington, USA.
- Glenday K.** NCHECR observational databases. *NCHECR Clinical Trial Network Research Coordinators Satellite Meeting*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE, Vajdic CM.** Cancer in immune deficient populations: What does it tell us about the role of infection in cancer aetiology? *The Cancer Council New South Wales*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE, Vajdic CM.** Cancer in immune deficient populations: What does it tell us about the role of infection in cancer aetiology? *Prince of Wales Clinical School*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Findings from the NSW HIV Think Tank. *NSW Health Department, HIV Health Promotion Committee Meeting*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Health in Men (HIM) Study, current results and future directions. *Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine Annual Meeting*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Investment and outcomes in New South Wales. *"Doing it Down Under"- Critical Reflections on Australia's HIV Response Satellite Symposium*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Male circumcision. *National Press Foundation Journalist to Journalist HIV/AIDS Training*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** The international context: Trends in HIV in gay men in developed country settings. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, National Forum on HIV Diagnoses Among Gay Men/Men Who Have Sex With Men*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Viral load and antiretroviral treatment in people with HIV. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, National Forum on HIV Diagnoses Among Gay Men/Men Who Have Sex With Men*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** HHV-8 transmission. *Sydney Sexual Health Centre Registrars' Meeting*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Immune system and the prevention of cancer: Epidemiological clues from transplant recipients and people with AIDS. *UNSW Faculty of Medicine Dean's Lecture Series*. Sydney.
- Gulich AE.** Use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis against HIV by homosexual men: Impact on HIV risk behaviours and subsequent HIV infection. *AIDS Council of New South Wales Gay Men's Interagency*. Sydney.
- Hellard M, Kaldor JM.** Public health applications of HIV monitoring tests. *Update Session, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons*. Melbourne.
- Huffam S.** HIV global status and prevention issues. *Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service HIV Workshop*. Broome, WA.
- Huffam S.** HIV treatment and care in Cambodia. *Royal Darwin Hospital Grand Rounds*. Darwin.
- Jacoby S.** Journal article review: A randomized trial of multivitamin supplements and HIV disease progression and mortality. *NCHECR Clinical Trial Network Research Coordinators Satellite Meeting*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** Hepatitis C Virus Projections Working Group: Estimates and Projections of the Hepatitis C Virus Epidemic in Australia 2006. *Department of Health Meeting*. Adelaide.
- Kaldor JM, Maher L.** Hepatitis C surveillance, *Hepatitis C Multilateral Meeting*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM, Murdoch P.** Repatriation Medical Authority – Methods and Issues. *Australian Veterans and Defence Council Meeting*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** National overview of hepatitis C with specific reference to trends in South Australia. *Department of Health, Hepatitis C Forum*. Adelaide.
- Kaldor JM.** Overview of NCHECR's national project – Hepatitis C Treatment in Alcohol and Other Drugs Settings. *Department of Health, Hepatitis C Forum*. Adelaide.
- Kaldor JM.** Analysis of an outbreak. *Advanced Disease Analysis Outbreak Workshop*. Newcastle, NSW.
- Kaldor JM.** Methods for estimation of HIV prevalence based on surveillance data. *Third National Consensus Workshop on HIV Estimates*. Lae, Papua New Guinea.
- Kaldor JM.** Primary care as the front line for research on the prevention of bloodborne viral and sexually transmitted infections. *Kirketon Road Centre's 20th Anniversary Symposium*. Sydney.

- Kaldor JM.** An overview of recent syphilis epidemiology. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations Annual General Meeting*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** Case presentation on health and development. *Workshop on HIV and Working Overseas*, Melbourne.
- Kaldor JM.** Epidemiology of HIV in Africa, Europe and Asia. *New South Global Consulting Meeting, UNSW*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** Global and local social HIV and sexually transmissible infections epidemiology. *Workshop on HIV and Working Overseas*, Melbourne.
- Kaldor JM.** Hepatitis C surveillance. *Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee, Blood-Borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Subcommittee Meeting*. Brisbane.
- Kaldor JM.** HIV epidemic in Australia. *Parliamentary Joint Committee on HIV*. Canberra.
- Kaldor JM.** Improving Aboriginal sexual health. *National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) Annual General Meeting*. Sydney
- Kaldor JM.** Military settings – Insights into disease causation. *Festschrift for Professor Ken Donald*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** Overview of achievements in the Health in Men (HiM) and Positive Health (pH) Studies. *Health in Men (HiM) and Positive Health (pH) Forum*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** Personal reflections. *Festschrift for Associate Professor Anne Mijch*. Melbourne.
- Kaldor JM.** Recent trends in HIV diagnosis in Australia. *National HIV Workshop*. Melbourne.
- Kaldor JM.** Reflections on Aileen's contribution in HIV and other areas. *Aileen Plant Memorial Symposium*. Perth.
- Kaldor JM.** Research proposal – Prevention of sexually transmissible infections in remote communities. *Department of Health and Community Services, Sexual Health Advisory Group*. Alice Springs, NT.
- Kaldor JM.** Update on HIV surveillance in Australia. *Anney Group Annual Meeting*. New York, USA.
- Kaldor JM.** Update on research activities of NCHECR as they relate to HIV-positive communities. *National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS*. Sydney.
- Kaldor JM.** Voluntary counselling and testing-based HIV surveillance. *Voluntary Counselling and Testing-Based HIV Surveillance Workshop*. Puri Dalem, Bali.
- Kariminia A, Amin J.** Data and database training. *7th Annual TREAT Asia Network Meeting*. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Kelleher AD.** An update on the pathogenesis and management of hereditary angioneurotic oedema. *Combined Clinical Immunology and Immunopathology Meeting, St Vincent's Hospital*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD.** T-cell assays and respiratory infections. *Sydney Continuing Education Program*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD.** T-cell immunology and clearance of respiratory infection. *The Royal College of Pathologists Australia Pathology Update Meeting*, Sydney.
- Kelleher AD.** T-cell loss, immune activation and potential therapeutic interventions. *National Press Foundation Journalist to Journalist HIV/AIDS Training*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD.** The PINT Study. *NCHECR Combined Working Groups Meeting*. Sydney.
- Kelleher AD.** Viruses on the run: Compensating for a lack of fitness. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.
- Kerr S.** Epidemiology of HIV in South and South East Asia. *South East Asia Research Collaboration with Hawaii*. Bangkok Thailand.
- Law MG.** HIV treatment differences/Estimates of HIV incidence. *'New HIV on the Rise – Why is it so and what can we do?' Satellite Symposium*. Gold Coast, Qld.
- Lim H.** Promoter-targeted siRNAs induce gene silencing of simian immunodeficiency virus infection *in vitro*. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.
- Lim H.** Promoter-targeted siRNAs induce gene silencing of simian immunodeficiency virus infection *in vitro*. *Garvan Institute Immunology Work in Progress Meeting*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** High hepatitis C incidence in new injecting drug users – A policy failure? *Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis Meeting*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** Risky people, risky places – A decade of research with drug users in South West Sydney. *National Centre in HIV Social Research Colloquium*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** The hitchhiker's guide to hepatitis C. *Drug and Alcohol Services/Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Seminar*. Adelaide.
- Maher L.** Human rights and interventions (Scaling up access to antiretroviral therapy for injecting drug users in South East Asia: Human rights issues). *Share Australia Inc, HIV/AIDS in our Region Seminar*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** Hepatitis C incidence in new injecting drug users. *Heplink Forum*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** Injecting drug users surveillance and the Australian Needle and Syringe Program survey. *Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis Meeting*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** Vulnerability to hepatitis C infection among new injecting drug users: Evidence and implications. *Harm Reduction Interagency Seminar*. Sydney.
- Maher L.** HIV and hepatitis C antibody prevalence and associated risk behaviours in Queensland injecting drug users. *Queensland Needle and Syringe Program Statewide Workshop*. Brisbane.

- Matthews G.** Combination therapy for hepatitis B. *St Vincent's Hospital HIV Journal Club*. Sydney.
- McDonald A.** Trends in newly diagnosed HIV infection in Australia. *NSW HIV Think Tank*. Sydney.
- Mooney-Somers J.** Endorsement of hegemonic male sexuality appears to be associated with a more negative experience of sexuality in heterosexual men. *Family Planning NSW Research Forum*. Sydney.
- Munier MLC.** Work in progress. *Garvan Institute Immunology Work in Progress Meeting*. Sydney.
- Oyomopito RA.** TREAT Asia Studies Evaluating Resistance (TASER) protocol TASER-M: Monitoring and evaluation of HIV drug resistance in patients on antiretroviral therapy. *TREAT Asia Quality Assurance Scheme (TAQAS) Workshop 2007*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Oyomopito RA.** TREAT Asia Studies Evaluating Resistance (TASER) protocol TASER-M: Monitoring and evaluation of HIV drug resistance in patients on antiretroviral therapy. *7th Annual TREAT Asia Network Meeting*. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Pett SL.** CCR5 antagonists in HIV-infection. *HIV Clinical Care Meeting for General Practitioners*. Canberra.
- Pett SL.** New drugs for the treatment of HIV infection. *S100 Prescribers Meeting*. Canberra.
- Prestage GP.** Age-trends in HIV prevalence among gay men. *NSW HIV Think Tank*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Estimating populations of gay men and HIV prevalence. *NSW HIV Think Tank*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Group sex and risk among gay men – TOMS. *Committee on AIDS Strategy Health Promotion Subcommittee Meeting*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Group sex and risk among gay men – TOMS. *Metropolitan Gay Men's Interagency Workshop*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** High risk gay men – sexpigs and party boys. *Committee on AIDS Strategy Health Promotion Subcommittee Meeting*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Illicit drug use among gay men. *NSW HIV Think Tank*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Mapping MSM populations - HIV prevalence. "New HIV infections on the rise - why is it so and what can we do?", *Australasian Society for HIV Medicine and the Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine Symposium*. Gold Coast, Qld.
- Prestage GP.** People living with HIV/AIDS research priorities. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations National Forum on HIV Infections*. Gold Coast, Qld.
- Prestage GP.** Serosorting among gay men. *AIDS Council of NSW Gay Men's Education Team Meeting*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Serosorting among gay men. *AIDS Council of NSW Staff Workshop*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Survey planning and questionnaire design. *AIDS Council of NSW Staff Workshop*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Trends in illicit drug use and risk among gay men. *Queensland Health, Queensland Forum on Injecting Drug Use*. Brisbane.
- Prestage GP.** Trends in risk behaviour among gay men. *AIDS Council of NSW Big Day In*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP.** Trends in risk behaviour among gay men. *Queensland Association for Healthy Communities Annual Sexual Health Forum*. Brisbane.
- Prestage GP.** Young gay men – research findings. *AIDS Council of NSW Fun and Esteem Project*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP, Imrie J.** Planning a national gay men's internet-based cohort study. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations Annual General Meeting*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP, Zablotska I, Imrie J, Pitts M, Grulich AE.** Trends in drug use among gay men in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, National Forum on HIV Diagnoses Among Gay Men/Men Who Have Sex With Men*. Sydney.
- Prestage GP, Zablotska I, Imrie J, Pitts M, Grulich AE.** Trends in HIV prevalence among gay men in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. *Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations National Forum on HIV Diagnoses Among Gay Men/Men Who Have Sex With Men*. Sydney.
- Regan D.** Multiple type interactions and HPV vaccination. *Network of Infectious Diseases Modellers of Australia Workshop*. Melbourne.
- Seddiki N, Sasson S, Munier MLC, van Bockel D, Zaunders J, Marriot D, Pett SL, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD.** Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *Federation of Clinical Immunology Society Clinical Immunology Meeting*. San Diego, USA.
- Seddiki N.** Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV positive patients with immune restoration disease. *Royal Perth Hospital Medical Research Foundation Seminar*. Perth.
- Seddiki N.** Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *Garvan Institute Immunology Work in Progress Meeting*. Sydney.
- Seddiki N.** Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar*. Sydney.

Seddiki N. Regulatory T-cell abnormalities in patients with inflammatory bowel disease and in HIV positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *Laboratoire de Biologie et Thérapeutiques des Pathologies Immunitaires de Professeur David Klatzman, Bâtiment CERVI, Pitié-salpêtrière Hospital.* Paris, France.

Topp L, Iversen J, Wand H, Day C, Maher L. Representativeness of Needle and Syringe Program clients who participate in the Australian Needle and Syringe Program Survey. *Annual Statewide Needle and Syringe Program Workers Workforce Development Meeting.* Sydney.

Ussher JU, Gilbert E, **Mooney-Somers J.** Working with marginalised groups. *Workshop at Health and Discourse Conference, University of Western Sydney.* Sydney.

van Bockel D. Analysis of CD8+ T-cell repertoire in HLA-B*2705 restricted response to chronic HIV-1 infection: Account of front-line defense. *Centre for Immunology Research Seminar.* Sydney.

van Bockel D. Analysis of CD8+ T-cell repertoire in HLA-B*2705 restricted response to chronic HIV-1 infection: Account of front-line defense. *Garvan Institute Immunology Work in Progress Meeting.* Sydney.

Weatherall C . B-lymphocyte responses in HIV. *Garvan Institute Immunology Work in Progress Meeting.* Sydney.

Yeung B. ATACH study status. *ATACH II Planning Day.* Sydney.

Yeung B. ATACH study update. *ATACH Study Coordinator's Day.* Sydney.

Yeung B. How to make life easier. *ATACH Study Coordinator's Day.* Sydney.

Conference poster presentations*

Allison WE, Iobuna V, Kalebe V, Kiromat M, Vince J, Schaefer M, **Kaldor JM.** Knowledge of HIV/AIDS and attitudes to testing amongst carers of admitted children at Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea. *5th World Congress of the World Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases.* Bangkok, Thailand.

Allison WE, Kiromat M, Vince J, Schaefer M, **Kaldor JM.** Predictors of HIV testing and serostatus amongst children admitted to Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea. *5th World Congress of the World Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases.* Bangkok, Thailand.

Apornpong T, Pankum T, Sirivichayakul S, Phanuphak N, Cunningham P, Stein E, **Kaldor JM,** Page-Shafer K, Phanupak P. HIV incidence using BED testing among clients attending anonymous HIV testing site in Bangkok, Thailand. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Brown KM, **Seddiki N, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD.** Describing T-cell receptor repertoires amongst antigen-specific CD4+ regulatory T-cells. *17th St Vincent's & Mater Health Research Symposium.* Sydney.

Burke M, Rajabu M, Kippax S, Crawford J, **Kaldor JM.** Men's knowledge of prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) in rural Tanzania. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Byakwaga H, Zhou J, Law MG, Emery S, Mallon P, Cooper DA. Effect of nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors on CD4 recovery for individuals on long-term, fully suppressive antiretroviral therapy. *9th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV.* Sydney.

Cahn P, Altclas J, Martins M, Losso M, Cassetti I, **Cooper DA.** Superior activity of apricitabine compared to 3TC over 21 days in treatment experienced HIV-1 infected patients failing therapy with M184V and NRTI resistance. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Cahn P, Altclas J, Martins M, Losso M, Cassetti I, Cox S, **Cooper DA.** 24-week data from study AVX-201: A prospective randomized double-blind dose-ranging phase IIb study of apricitabine in treatment-experienced patients with M184V and NRTI resistance. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.

Carey D, Baker D, Easey N, **Petoumenos K, Emery S,** Chuah J, Machon K, Rogers G, **Cooper DA,** Carr A. Poly-L-lactic acid injections for facial lipoatrophy: A randomised multicentre trial. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.

Carlson J, Brumme Z, Brumme C, Markowitz M, Jessen H, **Kelleher AD, Kaldor JM,** Rosenberg E, Harrigan ER, Walker B, Heckerman D. A novel graphical model approach for identifying host mediated selection pressure on viral evolution reveals the surprisingly strong influence of HLA class I alleles on HIV-1 evolution. *AIDS Vaccine 2007.* Seattle, USA.

Chang J, Sirivichayakul S, Avihingsanon A, Thantirowasit P, **Cooper DA, Matthews G, Dore GJ,** Ruxrungtham K, Lewin S. Hepatitis B virus-specific T-cell responses in HIV-1/hepatitis B virus-co-infected individuals increase transiently but are not sustained following 48 weeks of hepatitis B virus -active ART. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.

Cooper DA, Gatell J, Rockstroh J, Katlama C, Yeni P, Lazzarin A, Xu X, Isaacs R, Teppler H, Nguyen B-Y and the BENCHMRK-1 Study Group. 48-week results of BENCHMRK-1, a phase III study of raltegravir in

* This section includes all posters co-authored by an NCECR staff member for the *4th International AIDS Society Conference on Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention* and the *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*, as well as other selected posters.

patients failing ART with triple-class resistant HIV-1. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. Los Angeles, USA.

Cooper DA, Gatell J, Rockstroh J, Katlama C, Yeni P, Lazzarin A, Chen J, Isaacs R, Tepler H, Nguyen B-Y for the BENCHMRK-1 Study Group. Results of BENCHMRK-1, a phase III study evaluating the efficacy and safety of MK-0518, a novel HIV-1 integrase inhibitor in patients with triple-class resistant virus. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. Los Angeles, USA.

Coupland H, Pham A, **Maher L**. Culture and prevention: Indo-Chinese injecting drug users' perceptions of risk and approaches to preventing hepatitis C transmission. *18th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm*. Warsaw, Poland.

Dore GJ, Hellard M, **Matthews G**, Haber P, Shaw D, **Yeung B**, **Petoumenos K**, van Beek I, McCaughan G, Pan Y, Ffrench R, Rawlinson W, Lloyd A, **Kaldor JM** for the Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C (ATAHC) Study Group. Treatment of recently acquired hepatitis C infection in injecting drug users: Preliminary results from the Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C (ATAHC). *58th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases*. Boston, USA.

Duncombe C, **Kerr SJ**, Avihingsanon A, Pumpradit W, Suchaikaew V, Ruxrungtham K, Phanuphak P. Efficacy and tolerability of zidovudine 200mg BID as part of combination antiretroviral therapy for 96 weeks. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Ekstrom-Smedby K, **Vajdic CM**, **Falster M**, Engels E, Martinez-Maza O, Turner J, **Gulich AE**, Cozen W on behalf of the International Lymphoma Epidemiology Consortium. Autoimmune disorders and risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma subtypes: A pooled analysis. *American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting*. Los Angeles, USA.

Elliott J, Sarun S, Chin S, Chel S, **Huffam S**, Saphonn V, **Kaldor JM**, French M, **Cooper DA**, Mean CV. Performance characteristics of a whole blood interferon gamma release assay in HIV patients commencing antiretroviral therapy in a high tuberculosis incidence setting. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. Los Angeles, USA.

Fatkenheuer G, Konourina I, Nelson M, Clumeck N, Lazzarin A, Hoepelman IM, Mayer H, Sullivan J, Raffi F, **Cooper DA**, Tawadrous M, Clotet B, Karlsson A, Montana JB, Hirschel B, Horban A, van der Ryst E. Efficacy and safety of maraviroc (MVC) plus optimised background therapy (OBT) in viraemic, antiretroviral treatment-experienced patients infected with CCR5-tropic (R5) HIV-1 in Europe, Australia and North America (MOTIVATE 2): 48-week results. *11th European AIDS Conference*. Madrid, Spain.

Gelgor L, Anderson B, Baker D, Finlayson R, Genn W, McFarlane R, McMurchie M, **Kelleher AD**, **Kaldor JM** for the Long-Term Nonprogressor Study Group. Determinants associated with asymptomatic HIV disease in the Australian long-term nonprogressor cohort. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Giles ML, **McDonald A**, Elliott EJ, Ziegler JB, Hellard M, Lewin SR, **Kaldor JM**. Variable uptake of recommended interventions to reduce perinatal HIV transmission in Australia, 1982–2005. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Glenday K, **Petoumenos K**, Chuah J, Mijch A, Mulhall B, Kelly M, **Cooper DA** on behalf of the Australian HIV Observational Database. Predictors of poor immune response to highly active antiretroviral therapy in patients with a sustained virologic response: The Australian HIV Observational Database 1999-2006. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Gulich AE, **van Leeuwen MT**, **Falster M**, **Vajdic CM**. A wide range of cancers is associated with HIV infection: Meta-analysis of studies of cancer in people with HIV/AIDS and in transplant recipients. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention*. Sydney.

Gulich AE, **van Leeuwen MT**, **Falster M**, **Vajdic CM**. Have we underestimated the range of HIV-associated cancers? Meta-analysis of cancer incidence rates in people with immune deficiency. *Joint Scientific Meeting of Australasian Epidemiology Association and International Epidemiological Association Western Pacific Region*. Hobart.

Gulich AE, **van Leeuwen MT**, **Falster M**, **Vajdic CM**. A wide range of cancers is associated with HIV infection: Meta-analysis of studies of cancer in people with HIV/AIDS and in transplant recipients. *Joint Scientific Meeting of Australasian Epidemiological Association and International Epidemiological Association Western Pacific Region*. Hobart.

Hudson JH, **Prestage GP**, Weerakoon P, Lee G. The m2m study: Exploring the locations where married men have sex with men. *18th World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health*. Sydney.

Huffam S, **Srasuebku P**, **Zhou J**, Calmy A, Saphonn V, **Kaldor JM**, Ditangco R on behalf of the TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD). Experience using AZT and d4T in TAHOD patients: Treatment duration and AZT-related anaemia. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections*. Los Angeles, USA.

Jin F, Prestage GP, Imire JCG, Kippax SC, Pell CM, Donovan B, Templeton DJ, Cunningham PH, Cunningham AL, Mindel A, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE. Anal sexually transmissible infections as risk factors for HIV seroconversion. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Kumar PN, **Cooper DA**, Steigbigel RT, Zhao J, Teppler H, Nguyen B-Y for the BENCHMRK-1 and BENCHMRK-2 Study Groups. Efficacy of raltegravir, an HIV integrase inhibitor, in combination with regimens containing enfuvirtide, darunavir or tipranavir in patients with triple-class resistant virus: Combined results from BENCHMRK-1 and BENCHMRK-2. *11th European AIDS Conference (EACS).* Madrid, Spain.

Lal L, Wright E, Brew B, Arayawithchanont A, Robertson K, Samintarapunya K, Kongsangdao S, Lim M, Vonthanak S, Saphonn V, Sarim C, **Huffam S**, Li P, Imran D, Lewis J, Lun WH, Kamarulzaman A, Tau G, Ty Ali S, Kishore K, Bain M, Dwyer R, McCormack G, Hellard M, Cherry C, McArthur J, Wesselingh S. HIV positive patients from the Asia Pacific region who receive neuro HAART are less likely to have HIV-related neurocognitive impairment: Findings of the Asia Pacific Neuro AIDS Consortium Study. *2nd HIV Infection and the Central Nervous System: Developed and Resource-Limited Settings Conference.* Venice, Italy.

Langford S, Gayet-Ageron G, **Duncombe C**, Jupimai T, Mahanontharit A, Kiatburanakul S, Munsakul W, Ruxrungtham K, Hirschel B, Ananworanich J and the STACCATO Study Group. Supersensitive viral load assay to predict incomplete viral suppression during STI-re-treatment cycles. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Layton MR, Sritanyarat W, Tangcharoensathien V, **Kerr SJ.** A model for Thai physicians' prescribing of promotionally targeted drugs. *Conference on Pharmaceutical Policy Analysis.* Zeist, The Netherlands.

Lewin SR, Zaunders J, Murray J, Solomon A, **Munier MLC, Grey P, Bloch M, Smith D, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD.** The level of integrated HIV DNA during acute HIV infection is associated with the decay rate of viral load during antiretroviral therapy and long term depletion of resting CCR5+ CD4+ T-cells. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.

Lim H, Suzuki K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. Promoter targeted siRNA induce gene silencing of simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) infection *in vitro*. *Keystone Symposia: MicroRNAs and siRNAs: Biological Functions and Mechanisms.* Colorado, USA.

Lim H, Suzuki K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. Promoter targeted siRNAs induce gene silencing of simian immunodeficiency virus infection (SIV) *in vitro*. *17th St Vincent's & Mater Health Research Symposium.* Sydney.

Lim H, Suzuki K, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD. Promoter targeted siRNAs induce gene silencing of simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) infection *in vitro*. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Littlejohn M, Ayres A, Revill P, Colledge D, Yuen L, **Matthews G, Dore GJ**, Lewin S, Sasadeusz J, Thio C, Locarnini S. High proportion of mixed hepatitis B virus genotypes detected in a cohort of HIV/hepatitis B coinfecting patients. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Matthews G, Hellard M, Sasadeusz J, **Marks P, Yeung B**, Baker D, Bloch M, Rawlinson W, Lloyd A, **Kaldor JM, Dore GJ** for the Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C (ATAHC) Study Group. Pegylated interferon alfa-2a (PEG-IFN) + ribavirin (RBV) in HIV-infected individuals in the Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C (ATAHC) achieves end of treatment response (ETR) in over 80% of individuals. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Matthews G, Seaberg E, **Dore GJ**, Bowden S, Lewin SR, Sasadeusz J, **Marks P**, Hoy J, Locarnini S, Thio CL. Combination hepatitis B antiviral therapy influences hepatitis B suppression in a cohort of 120 HIV/hepatitis B coinfecting individuals. *17th Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver Conference.* Kyoto, Japan.

Matthews G, Seaberg E, **Dore GJ**, Bowden S, Lewin SR, Sasadeusz J, **Marks P**, Hoy J, Locarnini S, Thio CL. Combination hepatitis B antiviral therapy influences hepatitis B suppression in a cohort of 120 HIV/hepatitis B coinfecting individuals. *42nd Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.* Barcelona, Spain.

Meditz A, MaWhinney S, Feser W, Markowitz M, Little S, Hecht R, Daar E, Collier C, Margolick J, Kilby M, Routy J, Conway B, **Kaldor JM**, Levy J, Schooley R, **Cooper DA**, Walker B, Richman D, Connick E. Clinical features of primary HIV-1 infection in women. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.

Mooney-Somers J, Ussher JM, Perz J. Premenstrual syndrome and self-policing: The construction and experience of premenstrual distress in lesbian and heterosexual relationships. *NSW Women's Health Summit.* Sydney.

- Mooney-Somers J.** Endorsement of hegemonic male sexuality appears to be associated with a more negative experience of sexuality in heterosexual men. *18th World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health, 1st World Congress for Sexual Health.* Sydney.
- Pett SL, Emery S, MacRae K, Norris R, McCarthy M, Tendlokar A, Tseng J, Williams K, Cooper DA.** Safety and activity of SCH532706, a small molecule chemokine receptor 5 antagonist in HIV-1-infected individuals. *14th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.* Los Angeles, USA.
- Pett SL, Wentworth D, Emery S, Courtney-Rodgers D, Carey C, Harrod M-E, Watts E, Cooper DA** for the ESPRIT Protocol Team and INSIGHT Group. Predictors of patient retention in a large, international phase III clinical endpoint study: ESPRIT (Evaluation of Subcutaneous Proleukin in a Randomized International Trial). *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Phlong P, **Elliott J**, Teng KH, Teng H, Sarun S, Saphonn V, **Kaldor JM, Maher L**, Mean CV. Understandings and use of antiretroviral therapy in Cambodia. *8th International AIDS Impact Conference.* Marseille, France.
- Poynten M, Jin F, Prestage G, Mao L, Kippax S, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE.** Non-occupational post exposure prophylaxis against HIV, HIV risk behaviour and subsequent HIV infection in homosexual men: Data from the HIM cohort. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Prestage GP, Poynten M, Jin F, Imrie J, Kippax S, Donovan B, Kaldor JM, Grulich AE.** Willingness to participate in trials of rectal microbicides among HIV-negative gay men in Sydney. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Puthanakit T, **Kerr SJ**, Ananworanich J, Bunupuradah T, Boonrak P, Butterworth O, Srisanthana V. Immunological recovery in children starting NNRTI-based HAART in a resource-limited setting. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Regan D, Wilson DP, Hocking JS.** A mathematical model to assess the impact of a screening program on the prevalence of chlamydia trachomatis in Australia. *17th Meeting of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research.* Seattle, USA.
- Revill P, Littlejohn M, Ayres A, Cabuang L, Yuen L, Colledge D, Bartholomeusz A, Sasadeusz J, Lewin S, **Matthews G, Dore GJ**, Thio C, Locarnini S. Complete hepatitis B genome analysis in HIV coinfecting individuals identifies a novel core/precore mutant. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Saag M, Ive P, Heera J, Tawadrous M, DeJesus E, Clumeck N, **Cooper DA**, Horban A, Mohapi L, Mingrone H, Reyes-Teran G, Walmsley S, Hackman F, van der Ryst E, Mayer H. A multicentre, randomized, double-blind, comparative trial of a novel CCR5 antagonist, maraviroc versus efavirenz, both in combination with combavir (zidovudine (ZDV)/ lamivudine (3TC), for the treatment of antiretroviral-naïve patients infected with R5 HIV 1: Week 48 results of the MERIT Study. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Salmon AM**, van Beek I, **Amin J, Grulich AE, Maher L.** Prevalence and predictors of self-reported HIV positive status among injecting drug users attending the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Seddiki N**, Fazekas de St Groth B, Santner-Nanan B, Zaunders J, **Sasson S**, Landay A, Solomon M, I. Alexander S, Nanan R, **Cooper DA, Kelleher AD.** Expression of interleukin (IL)-2 and IL-7 receptors discriminates between human regulatory and activated T-cells. *1st Joint Meeting of European National Societies of Immunology, 16th European Congress of Immunology.* Paris, France.
- Seddiki N, Sasson S, Munier MLC, van Bockel D,** Zaunders J, Marriott D, **Pett SL, Cooper DA, Kelleher AD.** Regulatory T-cell abnormalities associated with aberrant CD4+ T-cell responses in HIV-positive patients with immune reconstitution disease. *4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention.* Sydney.
- Shen M, Purdue MP, Krickler A, Lan Q, **Grulich AE, Vajdic CM**, Turner J, Whitby D, Chanock S, Rothman N, Armstrong BK. Polymorphisms in DNA repair genes and risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma in New South Wales, Australia. *American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting 2007.* Los Angeles, USA.
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