

49th Annual Tow Research Awards

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10 Nov 2023

Sydney Children's Hospital
Lecture Theatre
Level 1, High St, Randwick

& Online

8:30am-5pm

Register via QR Code



Program

8:30 AM

Welcome & Registration

9:00 AM

Basic Science Division

- Or1. **Dr Holly Holliday**, Brain Tumours Group, Children's Cancer Institute.
Targeting the epigenome through combined FACT and BET inhibition in Diffuse Midline Glioma (DMG).
- Or2. **Isobel Williams**, School of Psychology, Faculty of Science, UNSW Sydney.
Reversing the effects of prenatal opioid exposure: the efficacy of sodium butyrate in animal models.
- Or3. **Dr Nasir Shah**, Nephrology, Prince of Wales Hospital; Randwick Clinical Campus, School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
In the Same Vein: Developing a Novel In Vitro Flow Model for Endothelium Using 3D-Printed, Patient-Specific Arteriovenous Fistulas.
- Or4. **Mr Binod Rayamajhee**, School of Optometry & Vision Science, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
The role of endosymbiotic Pseudomonas aeruginosa in the development of Acanthamoeba keratitis in an animal model.

10:00 AM

Morning Tea

10:30 AM

Clinical Division

- Or5. **Nur Amalina Md Isa**, School of Optometry & Vision Science, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Corneal nerve endings as a potential objective biomarker of migraine.
- Or6. **Christopher Bull**, Bilston Group, Neuroscience Research Australia; Randwick Clinical Campus, School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Nocturnal blood pressure surges are related to neuroinflammation in patients with obstructive sleep apnoea.
- Or7. **Ms Katarina Kikas**, Black Dog Institute; School of Psychology, Faculty of Science, UNSW Sydney.
Improving the diagnosis of illness anxiety disorder.
- Or8. **Dr Hannah Uebel**, Sydney Children's Hospital; Randwick Clinical Campus, School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Out of Home Care Reduces Risk of Poor School Outcomes in Children with Prenatal Drug Exposure – A data linkage study of 901,323 Australian children.

11:30 AM

Posters (judging at 12noon)

- Po1. **Abigail Marcus**, Killcross Behavioural Neuroscience Lab, School of Psychology, Faculty of Science, UNSW Sydney.
Prenatal exposure to methamphetamine causes physical and behavioural impairments in rat offspring.
- Po2. **Dr Lloyd Kopecky**, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick Clinical Campus, UNSW Sydney.
Exploring the Feasibility of Laser Descemet's Stripping Only (DSO) Ex Vivo – A Future Minimally Invasive Alternative for Treating Endothelial Disease?



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INNOVATION PRECINCT

The future of lifelong health

- Po3. **Michelle Devadason**, Translational Cancer Metabolism Lab, Adult Cancer Program, Lowy Cancer Research Centre, UNSW Sydney.
Targeting Anti-Androgen Resistance in Prostate Cancer using Physiological Pre-clinical Models.
- Po4. **Afraah Cassim**, Cancer Epigenetic Biology and Therapeutics, Children's Cancer Institute.
Establishing the epigenomic features of the newly discovered subtype, h3-wildtype with ezh1 overexpression in diffuse midline gliomas.
- Po5. **John Paul Ong**, Chemical Biology and Target-Based Drug Design, Children's Cancer Institute.
Uncovering the Druggable Proteome of Aggressive Childhood Cancers for Target-Based Drug Discover.
- Po6. **Tayla McCutcheon**, School of Psychology, Faculty of Science, UNSW Sydney.
Early life inflammation accelerates the development of emotion regulation in infant rat.
- Po7. **Dr Kofi Asiedu**, Department of Neurological Sciences, Prince of Wales Hospital; School of Optometry & Vision Science, UNSW Sydney.
Impact of SGLT2 inhibitors on corneal immune cell density and corneal nerve morphology.
- Po8. **Dr Rachel Langford**, Departments of Rheumatology & Nuclear Medicine, Prince of Wales Hospital.
Analysis of the utility of morning cortisol in screening for adrenal insufficiency.
- Po9. **Natalie Mastrogiovanni**, Refugee Trauma & Recovery Program, School of Psychology, Faculty of Science, UNSW Sydney.
'Tell Your Story': a Randomized Controlled Trial of a Digital Intervention to Reduce Mental Health Self-Stigma in Traumatized Arabic-Speaking Refugees.
- Po10. **Dr Eric Fong**, Department of Radiation Oncology, Prince of Wales Hospital.
Adjuvant small field pelvic radiotherapy for high-risk early-stage cervical cancer.
- Po11. **Tomas Meaney**, School of Psychology, Faculty of Science, UNSW Sydney.
Digital measurement of facial, acoustic, and linguistic biomarkers of consummatory and anticipatory pleasure
- Po12. **Mei Xu**, Black Dog Institute; Discipline of Psychiatry & Mental Health, School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
The cognitive effects of prolonged Intermittent Theta-burst Stimulation (iTBS) at left Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex (DLPFC) and cerebellum in healthy populations.
- Po13. **Ariella Heffernan-Marks**, Midwifery & Women's Health Nursing Research Unit, Royal Hospital for Women.
What barriers do reproductive-age women experience when navigating healthcare and can a women's health A.I tool (OVUM.) improve their engagement in preventative health activities?
- Po14. **Dr Arunima Jain**, Department of Nephrology, Prince of Wales Hospital.
Retrospective audit of patient characteristics and short-term blood pressure outcomes after review in a specialist hypertension clinic.
- Po15. **Aria Mohammadi Kordkheili**, Medical Imaging, Prince of Wales Hospital; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Morphometric assessment of the main pulmonary artery in healthy adults: can the volume of the artery be predicted by two-dimensional measurements?
- Po16. **Emily Walker**, School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Perceived Barriers and Enablers of Exercise Physiologists and Physiotherapists to Implementing Evidence-Based Practice.
- Po17. **Annice Fulvia**, Respiratory Medicine, Sydney Children's Hospital; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Evaluating Impact of Pectus Excavatum Deformity on Respiratory Function in Children and Adolescents.
- Po18. **Andrew Natoli**, School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
How do people with chronic low back pain perceive exercise?
- Po19. **Pui Yin Wong**, Gastroenterology; Sydney Children's Hospital; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Investigation of Dysbiosis in Paediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease: An Australian Cohort Study.
- Po20. **Emerald Win Oo**, Fertility & Research Centre, Royal Hospital for Women; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.
Microbial Mysteries of Misconception: Comparing Vaginal Microbiomes in Natural and IVF Pregnancies?

Po21. **Christopher Chan**, Gastroenterology; Sydney Children's Hospital; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.

The prevalence of PKS+ E.coli in cystic fibrosis.

12 NOON

Lunch

1:00 PM

Nurse, Midwife, Allied Health Division

Or9.

Dr Daniel Treacy

Physiotherapy Department, Prince of Wales Hospital.

Mobility training outcomes for older adults with frailty are not enhanced by strength training or specialised equipment: exploration of a systematic review and meta-analysis.

Or10.

Mr Andrew Grant

Kids Cancer Centre, Sydney Children's Hospital.

Investigating Models of cAre and the Nursing role in Paediatric gEnetic cAnceR Risk cLinics (IMAGiNE a PEARL).

Or11.

Ms Sarah-Grace Paguinto

Occupational Therapy Department, Sydney Children's Hospital.

Getting Wheels: Development and evaluation of a psychoeducational resource for parents of children with a neuromuscular condition following recommendation of wheelchair equipment.

2:00 PM

Independent Learning Project (ILP) & Honours Division

Or12.

Tairon Zhang

Neuroscience Research Australia; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.

Nocturnal blood pressure surges may contribute to cerebral small vessel disease severity and lower cognitive performance in untreated middle-aged people with obstructive sleep apnoea: preliminary results.

Or13.

Kate Stacey

Royal Hospital for Women; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.

Neurodevelopmental Outcomes in Extreme Preterm Infants Treated with Early Paracetamol for Patent Ductus Arteriosus.

Or14.

Jason Djafar

Sydney Children's Hospital; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.

Characterising common phenotypes across the childhood dementia disorders – a cross-sectional study from two Australian centers.

Or15.

Isabella Natale

Sydney Children's Hospital; School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW Sydney.

Role of sirolimus in the management of complex vascular anomalies in children.

3:00 PM

Afternoon Tea

3:30 PM

Case Presentations

Or16.

Dr Jordan Fuzi

Department of Otolaryngology, Sydney Children's Hospital.

A novel tertiary level approach to paediatric Acute Invasive Fungal Sinusitis.

Or17.

Dr Holly Campbell

Department of Paediatric Surgery, Sydney Children's Hospital.

Early experience with Indocyanine Green Near-Infrared Fluorescence Guided Surgery in Paediatric Patients.

Or18.

Dr Katrin Mannes

Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, Prince of Wales Hospital.

Endobronchial valves and blood patch for persistent air leak secondary to bronchopleural fistula.

Or19.

Dr Dominic Vickers, Department of Cardiology, Prince of Wales Hospital.

Checkmate by checkpoint; no-one's immune to a broken heart.

Keith Donelly, Mental Health Nurse, Prince of Wales Hospital, and founder of [Keith's Closet](#).

Keith's Closet provides new and high-end second-hand quality clothing, toiletries, and accessories free of charge to those admitted to the mental health service. Patients can visit the boutique-style walk-in wardrobe accompanied by a member of staff for a one-on-one shopping experience to choose from a variety of styles and fashions. This service is not only providing essential items, but it improves self-esteem, confidence and instils hope for the future.

Keith's Closet believes that people acquiring mental health services should have access to clothing, accessories, essential items, and homewares in times of need whether in hospital or in the community.

Keith's Closet also provides an outreach program to those supported by the community mental health team by providing all the items available in Keith's Closet and additionally homewares such as beds, sofas, and electrical appliances. It is an Australian-first with ambitions to become a national service.

Keith would like to form collaborations with researchers to undertake a formal evaluation of Keith's Closet with the aim of publishing. There is potential for a mixed methods study involving a multidisciplinary team of clinicians, health economists, implementation scientists, and statisticians looking at healthcare utilisation, length of hospital stay, readmission risk, and quality of life.

A/Prof Suzanne Sheppard-Law, Conjoint Associate Professor of Person-Centred Nursing Research University of Technology Sydney, Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney & Sydney Eye Hospital, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District.

A/Prof Sheppard-Law was appointed to this new role in 2023, the first of its kind at SESLHD. Sue will be presenting the Tow Research Awards to recipients.

This joint role is to provide leadership of the person-centred nursing research strategy that will support the overall care delivery and culture across School of Nursing & Midwifery, UTS; POWH, and SSEH. A significant component of the role is ensuring research activity that is focussed on person centred care and quality and safety and that together impacts on the care environment and organisational culture more broadly. This will include an active approach to further developing and supporting the capacity and capability of nursing clinician researchers.

The conjoint appointment of Suzanne Sheppard-Law as Associate Professor of Person-Centred Care at the Prince of Wales Hospital builds on the strong commitment of POW nurses to undertaking research that impacts on the care delivered every day. Suzanne brings a wide range of research experience including quality and safety research, and a strong commitment that aligns to the values and vision of nurses at the POWH 'Transforming Person-Centred Care Together'. Suzanne will focus on working with academics at UTS and clinicians to build a program of research that is systematic, achieves our joint vision, uses contemporary evidence, and builds research capacity and capability of nursing staff.