Department of Renal Medicine
St George Hospital

Research Report

2013
Head of Department

Professor Mark Brown
MBBS, MD, FRACP

Senior Consultant Staff

Dr Sharon Ong BSc (Med), MBBS, PhD, FRACP (Conjoint Senior Lecturer, UNSW),
Head of Research, Dept. Renal Medicine.

Associate Professor John Kelly MBBS, MD, FRACP

Associate Professor George Mangos MBBS, MD, FRACP

Associate Professor Ivor Katz MD, MBBCh, FCP(SA), BSc Honours, PhD, FRACP

Dr William Chan MBBS, PhD, FRACP

Dr Parthasarathy Shanmugasundaram MBBS, DM, FRACP (Conjoint Lecturer, UNSW)

Dr Cathie Lane B.Pharm. B.Med FRACP,Grad Cert ULT, PhD (Conjoint Lecturer, UNSW)

Dr Frank Brennan MBBS, FRACP, FACHPM, LLB- Consultant Palliative Care Medicine
**Research Staff**

**Research Fellow**

Dr Franziska Pettit

**Medical Students**

Colin Chng
Foong Ming Ho

**Research Officers**

Saiyini Pirabhahar
Lynne Roberts
Gemma Collett
Paula Williamson

**Nursing & Allied Health Research Staff**

Elizabeth Josland
Shelley Tranter
Tania Burns
Jennifer Beddoe
Yanella Martinez-Smith
Coralie Meek
Maria Chan
RECENT AND ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Hypertension in chronic kidney disease (CKD)**
Dr Sharon Ong and A/Prof John Kelly

1. Adequacy of blood pressure control in CKD patients.
2. Endocrine regulation of hypertension and cardiovascular disease in CKD.

**CKD health systems research**
A/Prof Ivor Katz

1. Achievement of target BP & other risk factors in CKD patients.
2. Patterns of referral for CKD Management.
3. CKD to kidney failure - predictive model.
4. Web based CKD outreach program.

**Hypertension in pregnancy**
Prof Mark Brown and A/Prof George Mangos
(with A/Prof Greg Davis and A/Prof Tony O’Sullivan)

3. Outcomes of hypertensive pregnancies.
4. Post-partum physiology, psychology and pediatric outcomes for women with pre-eclampsia (the ‘P4’ study).
**Renal palliative care**  
**Dr Frank Brennan and Prof Mark Brown**

1. The role of palliative care in improving quality of life outcomes for hospital based haemodialysis patients.

2. Quality of life & symptom burden in dialysis patients.

3. Survival and symptom control of patients in Pre-dialysis & Renal Supportive Care clinics.

4. Retrospective and prospective studies of the effects of a Renal Palliative care service on patients with CKD stage 4/5 and their carers.

5. A study of ‘good deaths’ in dialysis patients.

**Nutrition in CKD**  
**Maria Chan and A/Prof John Kelly**

1. Relationship between nutritional status and outcome in end stage kidney disease.
PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures – Local

2013


5. Brennan F. Withholding and withdrawing from dialysis and the Care of the Dying Patient. Tamworth Base Hospital Renal Unit, Tamworth, NSW. June 26th 2013.


7. Brennan F. What is Renal Supportive Care? Renal Supportive Care Symposium, St George Hospital, Sydney. August 9th 2013.

8. Brennan F. The pathogenesis and management of Restless Legs Syndrome. Renal Supportive Care Symposium, St George Hospital, Sydney. August 9th 2013.


15. **Brown MA.** The Dialysis long case. BPT Master Class for Sydney BPT trainees. St George Hospital, Sydney. May 29th 2013


23. **Brown MA.** Chairman, Kidneys for sale – yes or no? St George hospital Medical Research Symposium, Kogarah, NSW. October 17th 2013.


25. **Chan M** Engaging Practice Research to Improve the Clinical Outcome of Patients with End Stage Kidney Disease. The Australasian Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (AuSPEN) ASM (Sydney, Australia) November 2013.


27. **Cuesta, A.** Tranter S. Taking Control: Addressing Peritoneal Dialysis Related Infection. NSW and ACT PD Nurses Special Interest Group, College of Nursing in Burwood, August 2013.

29. **Josland E.** End Stage Renal Disease. Palliative Care Course, St George Hospital, Sydney. March 7th 2013.

30. **Josland E.** Renal Supportive Care – Nursing Experience and Perspectives. Renal Supportive Care Symposium, St George Hospital, Sydney. August 9th 2013.


**Invited Lectures – National**

2013


Invited Lectures – International

2013

1. Brennan F. Renal Supportive Care – An Overview. All Ireland Palliative Care Institute, Dublin, Ireland. April 29th 2013.

2. Brennan F. Palliative Care in End Stage Renal Disease. Asia Pacific Hospice and Palliative Care Network Conference, Bangkok. Thailand. October 11th 2013


6. Chan M Renal nutrition research – implication to clinical practice. University of Hong Kong and Dietitians Association of Hong Kong (Hong Kong) June 2013.

Presentations of Research at Scientific Meetings

Local

2013


National

2013


4. Chan M, Kelly J, Batterham M and Tapsell L. Nutritional status is associated with the future treatment choice - renal replacement therapy vs. conservative care in end stage kidney disease patients attending the multidisciplinary pre-dialysis assessment clinic. 49th Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) Annual Scientific Meeting, September 2013 (Brisbane, Australia).


**International**

**2013**

PUBLICATIONS

2013


5. **Brennan FP.** Ethical Principles for Patients, Families and Doctors to Consider. *Nephrology* 2013; 18: 413-414.


8. **Brennan FP.** Dignity: a Unifying Concept for Palliative Care and Human Rights. *Progress in Palliative Care* 2013 (Epub ahead of print publication)


15. **Foo JY, Mangos GJ, Brown MA.** Characteristics of hypertensive disorders in twin


17. **Josland, E.** Quality of Life. What information is already available and what evidence is this based on? *Nephrology*, 2013c: 18, 410-413.


OTHER PUBLISHED MATERIAL (Books, book chapters & reviews)


AWARDS


RESEARCH GRANTS

Amgen Research Grants

Recipient: A/Prof Ivor Katz
Project Name: The development of a web-based Chronic Kidney Disease Outreach Program
Amount: $70 000
Year: 2013

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A/Prof Ivor Katz is involved in the The development of a web-based Chronic Kidney Disease Outreach Program: improving clinical outcomes of CKD patients in the St George and Sutherland area. The CKD outreach program implements a web-based clinical tool whereby general practitioners (GPs) and hospital-based doctors can refer patients with or at risk of CKD for expert nephrological opinion online.