

# Hawke's Bay Clinical Research Committee

Annual Report 2014



*Te Aho a Māui*



## The Hawke's Bay Clinical Research Committee (HBCRC)

The HBCRC is a Committee of the Hawke's Bay Clinical Council and first meet in November 2013. Its role is to help ensure appropriate governance of research across the Hawke's Bay health sector by providing strategic and operational advice to the Clinical Council and maintaining an overview of all health and disability research being undertaken within the public health sector in Hawke's Bay.

It seeks to promote and ensure good clinical and ethical practice in health and disability research across primary, community, hospital, educational and training services within the public health sector in Hawke's Bay.

The 2013-14 Committee membership included representatives of the Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB), Health Hawke's Bay, Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT), University of Otago, Hawke's Bay Medical Research Foundation (HBMRF) and Consumer Council.

			
<b>John Gommans</b> Clinical Council & Chair	<b>David Barry</b> HBMRF	<b>Andi Crawford</b> Allied Health	<b>Nicola Ehau</b> Health Hawke's Bay
			
<b>Warrick Frater</b> HBDHB	<b>Gabrielle Hogg</b> Consumer Council	<b>Sally Houliston</b> HBDHB Clinical Research/Nursing	<b>Susan Jacobs</b> EIT
			
<b>Carol McAllum</b> University of Otago	<b>Diana Schmid</b> Clinical Trials	<b>Dianne Wepa</b> Māori Health	

## Message from the Chair

### **Dr John Gommans. General Physician and Chief Medical Officer – Hawke's Bay Hospital**

I welcome you to this, our first, annual report of the Hawke's Bay Clinical Research Committee.

A key goal of the new Hawke's Bay Clinical Research Committee is to promote clinical research activity and share expertise as clinical research benefits both the researcher and the local community. Clinicians engaged in research gain skills, broaden their understanding, and develop links into regional, national and international networks, which enhances the capability and morale of the individuals involved and the health workforce in general. Research, audit and the associated external review help ensure quality delivery of services locally, adherence to best practice guidelines and dissemination of evidence based medicine, which enhances the care of all. The ability to participate in research also helps attract clinicians with academic interests to Hawke's Bay.

I would like to acknowledge the willing contribution of all the inaugural Committee members who freely gave of their time, energy and enthusiasm reflecting their passion for clinical research.

## Achievements in 2014

During the Committee's first year we met as a group and determined that our goals for 2014 were:

- To undertake a stock take of current research activity. This identified that 142 approved Clinical Research projects were already underway: 47 EIT, 11 DHB Clinical Trials Research Unit (CTRU), 81 DHB non-CTRU and 3 supervised by the HBMRF.
- To establish a website making our Committee minutes, reports and summaries of current active research projects accessible to researchers and the public. This is available via the DHB website or [www.hawkesbay.health.nz/page/pageid/2145884116/Hawkes\\_Bay\\_Clinical\\_Research\\_Committee](http://www.hawkesbay.health.nz/page/pageid/2145884116/Hawkes_Bay_Clinical_Research_Committee)
- To promote clinical research activity and share expertise by establishing Clinical Research Forums where all active clinical researchers and those interested in research were invited to attend as a means to get together, network and share the experiences and journeys of other researchers. The inaugural forum on 23 July 2014 had three local clinicians discussing their doctoral research and was attended by over 30 researchers from across the health sector; the second forum on 19 November had three more local clinicians discussing their Masters' level research, how they got started and what they learnt.
- To produce this, our first annual report of clinical research activity in Hawke's Bay.

## Looking Forward

The Committee's goals for 2015 include building on the successes of 2014, ensuring a regular Clinical Research Forum occurs, establishing a Network of Friends of the HBCRC, facilitating the establishment of peer groups amongst like-minded researchers, investigating the feasibility of collating a list of all publications by Hawke's Bay Researchers and considering an annual HBCRC award for excellence in research.

We welcome feedback from researchers and the local community – what do you expect or want from us? From the local clinical research community?

## Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT)

### **Susan Jacobs, RN, PhD - Dean, Faculty of Education, Humanities and Health Science, EIT**

I am very pleased to represent EIT on the HB Clinical Research Committee. My role as Dean of a Faculty comprising six schools: Health & Sport Science, Nursing, Education & Social Science, Te Ūranga Waka, idea school and Toihoukura provides me with daily reminders of the complex socio-cultural and biological influences on health and the benefits of education for well-being.

#### **A few of EIT health research-related highlights from 2014:**

EIT's interdisciplinary Master of Health Science degree started in 2014. Courses are designed around key threads of health disparities and the needs of populations; ethical, legal and political dimensions of health policy and practice; and interdisciplinary practice to improve health care. The MHSc degree complements the existing Master of Nursing degree, and EIT was proud to have 13 Master of Nursing graduates at the 2014 graduation. Four of these MN graduates have already achieved refereed publications, and a further six articles are in press. The March 2015 graduation will celebrate 8 MN graduates and one MHSc graduate.

Associate Professor Clare Harvey and School of Nursing colleagues comprise the New Zealand team in the international collaborative research relating to 'missed care'.

An interdisciplinary EIT research team is working with 2012 Bachelor of Recreation and Sport graduate, Levi Armstrong in the evaluation of the PATU© project – as a health and fitness programme for Māori by Māori.

EIT staff continued their collaborative research with a number of other tertiary institutions as well as several DHBs, and funding for health research was received from the National Heart Foundation, Health Hawke's Bay, Sport Hawke's Bay, Hawke's Bay District Health Board and the Olive Tree Trust. In addition, staff produced refereed articles in journals such as *British Journal of Nursing*, *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, *Orthopaedic Nursing*, *Nursing Praxis in New Zealand*, *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, *Contemporary Nurse*, *Journal of Primary Health Care*, and *International Nursing Review*.

EIT is grateful for the support of, and collaborative opportunities with regional stakeholders.

## Hawke's Bay Medical Research Foundation (HBMRF)

### **David Barry – HBMRF**

The HBMRF was founded in 1961 to "promote, initiate and support research in all health related fields including medical and health education, knowledge and understanding". The Foundation is particularly interested in promoting research relevant to, and carried out by, Hawkes Bay people.

Highlights of the Foundation's activities in 2014 included the funding of the visit to Hawkes Bay of Professor Peter Lewindon, an eminent paediatric gastroenterologist. His main contribution was to the 66th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Paediatric Society of NZ (the second ever to be held in Hawkes Bay). He also addressed the AGM of HBMRF.

Research supported in 2014 included projects for improving the training and support of foster caregivers, examining the ways in which teaching in Intensive Care Units might be improved and a major study aimed at reducing the burden of asthma in HB and NZ. This last study (aligned with the Global Asthma Network) failed to obtain other national or international funding and is on hold.

More detailed information about the HBMRF and its significant contributions to the health of Hawkes Bay people can be found at: [www.hbmf.org.nz](http://www.hbmf.org.nz)

### **Dr Carol McAllum – Associate Dean Undergraduate Studies**

The University of Otago has several regional campuses – including Hawke’s Bay. While the principal role of the Hawke’s Bay campus is providing clinical experience and training for physiotherapy, dietetic and final year medical students, participation in research is another vital activity.

The Wellington campus provides assistance with summer studentships, grant writing, applications, contracting and funding opportunities. Several summer studentships have been successfully completed in Hawke’s Bay including Henry Schofield’s 2014 summer studentship, supervised by Dr Scott Boyes, on Paramedic performed FAST exam in a simulated haemorrhage model.

These resources are available for people affiliated with the University or for those wanting to work in partnership. The Researchers’ Toolkit is available at <http://www.otago.ac.nz/wellington/research/tools/>

Based in the Wellington campus is Christine Groves who is one of the research advisors and the first point of contact for us. Christine’s email is [Christine.groves@otago.ac.nz](mailto:Christine.groves@otago.ac.nz) and her phone number is 04 918 6855.

Contact details for others in the University of Otago Research and Enterprise office are available via this link <http://www.otago.ac.nz/research/contacts/>.

My role as the Associate Dean Hawke’s Bay is to be a facilitator and link to the resources of the University. Please contact me any time via email [carol.mcallum@hbhdb.govt.nz](mailto:carol.mcallum@hbhdb.govt.nz) .

## DHB CTRU Research

### **Diana Schmid, Coordinator – Research. RN and Manager Clinical Trials Research Unit**

The Clinical Trials Research Unit (CTRU) was established within Hawke's Bay Hospital in 1998. The unit is based in Villa Two at Hawke's Bay Hospital and is responsible for the management and coordination of clinical trials conducted within the Medical Service. The unit also provides advice and support to clinicians in other hospital services who are interested in starting clinical trials research. The Chief Medical Officer (Hospital) is the Director of this unit, and the Research Coordinator manages the operational requirements and is supported by experienced research nurses.

Clinical trials conducted over the past 17 years have covered a wide range of clinical indications including acute coronary syndromes, stable & unstable angina, atrial fibrillation, heart failure, hypertension, hyperlipidaemia, stroke, diabetes, osteoporosis, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, C Difficile infection, irritable bowel syndrome, and obesity.

Staff within the CTRU are proud of their achievements in all areas of trial participation. Hawke's Bay Hospital has a reputation both nationally and internationally as a site which maintains high standards in protocol adherence, patient recruitment & retention and data quality. We have undergone three external audits and received very positive feedback on each occasion with no major findings.

Currently there are 10 physicians actively involved in the conduct of 7 ongoing clinical trials covering cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, and neurology.

The future of clinical trials in New Zealand and Hawke's Bay is reassuring, with many sponsors and clinical research organisations contacting us regularly to invite our physicians to participate in new trials. However, our capacity is limited by resources and increasing clinical demands.



## DHB Non-CTRU Research

### **Sally Houlston, Nurse Consultant Workforce Development, HBDHB**

The coordination of locality review and authorisation for research being conducted within the DHB sector (excluding clinical trials managed by the CTRU) is managed by Sally Houlston, Nurse Consultant Workforce Development (as delegated by the CEO/CMO/CNO). Locality review is the process by which a locality (in this case HBDHB) assesses its suitability for the safe and effective conduct of a study. If a locality is satisfied that this is the case, it authorises the study.

This relates to research which involves consumers of our health service and / or our employees.

In 2014, a total of 34 research applications were granted locality approval, which is about a 50% increase from the 22 approvals in 2013. This clearly demonstrates the increasing amount of research being conducted within HBDHB.

The research ranges from large Health Research Council funded, multi-site studies (often being conducted via Universities) to individual research projects for academic purposes at either Master or PhD level.

Information about HBDHB processes and application forms locality authorisation can be viewed on either the HBDHB external website or on the research page on the DHB intranet 'Nettie'

## Events

### Inaugural Research Forum – July 2014

The HBCRC launched their Inaugural Research Forum on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014. The theme “Getting Started in Research” was designed to not only engage current researchers but encourage all that were interested or considering research. The key focus of the presenters was how they got started, tips for new researchers and sharing some of their interesting findings from their own research.

Speakers:

- **Inez Awatere-Walker**  
Maori mental health recovery: Non-Maori clinician's success stories
- **Ann Denton**  
New Zealand's Youngest Doctor of Pharmacy
- **Clare Harvey**  
Aberrant Work Environments, Rationed Care as System Failure or Missed Care as Skills Failure?

### Research Symposium – November 2014

Following on from the success of the inaugural research forum the HBCRC held a Research Symposium on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014. The theme “Research at a Masters Level” enabled three presenters to share their masters' research while reflecting on how they got started and what they have learnt so far.

Speakers:

- **Deb Higgins**  
What is the prevalence of intimate partner violence disclosed during routine screening in a large general practice in provincial NZ?
- **Tracy Murphy**  
How do occupational therapists understand and negotiate risk taking in discharge planning with the older patient and their family?
- **Janine Palmer**  
Supporting patients to manage kidney disease

### Research Forum – April 2015

The next Research Forum will be held on 23 April 2015, the committee has secured an International & National Researcher to discuss their work on nutrition, and the health of women and young children in the community

Speakers:

- **Dr Christina Vogel**  
What effect does the local food environment have on the dietary behaviours of mothers with young children?
- **Caroline Gunn**  
Gravida's Healthy Start Workforce Project