



WELCOME!

We hope you enjoy reading about our research updates from the Centre for Kidney Research! Winter has been very productive at the Centre for Kidney Research, with many researchers presenting their research findings at the Transplant Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) Meeting in Canberra and also at The Transplantation Society (TTS) International Congress in Vancouver.

ARDAC Study

The ARDAC (Antecedents of Renal Disease in Aboriginal Children) Study began in 2002. They are continuing to monitor kidney and cardiovascular health of approximately 2000 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and young people across NSW. We hope to discover why Australia's Aboriginal population experience such a high burden of chronic kidney disease.

Rita, our Senior Aboriginal Health Education Officer, (see photo below, centre) has most recently been liaising with communities around Kempsey, Armidale, Dubbo and Orange and has arranged for the ARDAC nurses to visit high schools to perform kidney health screening checks for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children.



DETECT Study

Did you know...

Just a simple test at home may be all it takes to check you are free of early signs of bowel cancer.

The DETECT (Detecting Bowel Cancer through Screening in Chronic Kidney Disease) Study commenced in July this year. We have been inviting those with chronic kidney disease to get involved in bowel cancer screening by completing a simple stool test at home. Our researchers have been approaching patients from Westmead and Blacktown Hospitals so far and have enjoyed the positive response, as most people have previously heard about the test and are keen to participate.

The information we gather from the results of the tests will allow us to evaluate the benefits and costs of early detection of bowel cancer, specifically for those with kidney disease.

For more information, or if you would like to see if you are eligible to be involved, you may contact one of our researchers on (02) 9845 1493.

NEAT Study

"Nocturnal Enuresis Alarm Therapy"

This clinical trial is using bedwetting alarms to treat children suffering from nocturnal enuresis. There are two different alarm designs being trialled to determine if one is superior to the other at successfully treating bedwetting. The trial has now been running for over a year with 250 children enrolled at the end of August 2010. Each child is followed up for a year from commencement of treatment to monitor their long-term outcome. Currently there are 75 children who have completed all their follow up. It should be noted that the recruitment phase of this trial will conclude at the end of this year. Therefore, if you know of eligible children who would benefit from participating then please contact Marianne on 9845 1481 or email MariannK@chw.edu.au for more information.



QuiCK Study

The QuiCK (Quality of Life in Chronic Kidney Disease) Study has been completed, with over 200 people participating in this research. We would like to thank all those people who assisted with the research, which involved completing surveys about quality of life for a person with kidney disease and considering scenarios about bowel cancer. Participants were from three major renal units across Sydney. Results of the study are able to illustrate to clinicians how quality of life differs between those with end stage kidney disease, those on dialysis and those who have had a transplant. We were also able to determine what a profound impact a cancer diagnosis would have on quality of life for those with kidney disease.

The study results will soon be submitted for publication and will be presented at the ANZSN (Australia and New Zealand Society of Nephrology) meeting in Perth in September.



CARI GUIDELINES AT CKR

Did you know...

Guidelines help to reduce the use of unnecessary, ineffective or harmful interventions, and to facilitate the treatment of patients with maximum chance of benefit, with minimum risk of harm, and at an acceptable cost.

The Centre for Kidney Research is the home for the CARI (Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment) editorial office. CARI is a group initiated by the Council of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) and the Board of Kidney Health Australia (KHA) whose aim is to improve the health care and outcomes of patients with kidney disease in Australia & New Zealand by helping clinicians and health care workers to adhere to evidence-based medical practice. This is done by facilitating the development and implementation of clinical practice guidelines based on the best available evidence. The CARI website is found at www.cari.org.au.

CKR Staff Profile

Dr Richard McGee



"I joined the Centre for Kidney Research last year, initially as a research assistant and now as a PhD student. During my time here I have worked on several reviews of medications used in kidney transplantation. These reviews influence the guidelines which direct clinicians in choosing treatment options for their patients, so it is very patient centred research. My own PhD is in Paediatric surgery, I am looking at the quality of research in this field. It is fantastic to be located in an active research environment where ideas and thoughts are exchanged, and I am surrounded by world class researchers conducting cutting edge research. When I am not at the research centre I enjoy volunteering as a surf life saver on Sydney's Northern beaches."

Further information

For more details about our work, please feel free to contact Narelle Williams on 02 9845 1473.

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST OR EXPERIENCE IN FUNDRAISING?

We would like your help to raise awareness and vital funds for our important research. Contact Narelle for further details on 02 9845 1473 or email narellw4@chw.edu.au.

OUR WEBSITE!!

For further information about CKR you may like to visit our website at: www.kidney-research.org