



ckr

the children's hospital at Westmead
Centre for Kidney Research

NEWSLETTER Edition no. 1

WINTER 2009

WELCOME!

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Centre for Kidney Research (CKR)! We hope to keep you informed through this quarterly newsletter about aspects of our work and hope you enjoy reading about what we are up to!

WHO WE ARE

The Centre for Kidney Research (CKR) at The Children's Hospital at Westmead consists of a group of up to 30 dedicated and passionate researchers, doctors, scientists, nurses and administration staff, working towards the goal of improving kidney health. This work is supported by the Government through the NHMRC, by the hospital, and by generous support from the community.

WHAT WE DO

The work of CKR covers all aspects of research, from basic science to clinical and population health studies.

Our laboratory is looking at rejection and tolerance of kidney transplants and the possible causes and treatment of a variety of renal diseases, including those with genetic causes and developing new treatments for atherosclerosis, a major problem in patients with kidney disease.

Clinical studies include investigating urinary tract problems in children, as infections are common and can cause kidney damage. New diagnostic methods for bacterial illness are being trialled in the FEVER Study, while prevention is the main focus of the PRIVENT Trial. This is the world's largest study investigating the effect of long-term antibiotics on urinary tract infections in children.

CKR is also investigating bed-wetting and childhood daytime wetting. The NEAT Study is currently assessing the effectiveness of a new wireless bed-wetting alarm device.

Targeting risk factors that lead to kidney disease in the general population and high risk groups is also an important part of our work. The ARDAC Study is concerned with addressing this issue and involves the identification of early markers of kidney disease in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children, screening children across NSW.

THE TULIP TIME FESTIVAL

24th September – 7th October 2009

This year, the Tulip Time Festival, held annually in Bowral, is supporting the Centre for Kidney Research at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. Events during the festival include open gardens, the Tulip Time Food & Wine Street Fair and plenty of private garden talks and tours.

We invite you to come along for the street parade down the main street of Bowral. Feel free to bring friends and family to walk behind The Children's Hospital at Westmead banner on Saturday 26th September at 2pm.

For more information on the Festival, visit the website at: www.tuliptime.net.au.

THE WORK OF CKR

Research aims to identify causes of disease, find treatments for these (including prevention) and evaluate the evidence for current treatments. We have an ongoing commitment to providing the latest evidence to enhance services, improve care and promote health. We would like patients, parents and other family members to know about the research that we are undertaking to improve all aspects of care of patients with kidney disease.

Please see the attached invitation to come along and see our amazing work. Feel free to also include family members and/or friends in your visit.

WEBSITE

For further information about any of these studies, you may visit our website at:

www.kidney-research.org

READ ALL ABOUT IT!!

For further information, or to ensure you **RECEIVE THE NEXT KIDNEY RESEARCH NEWSLETTER** by mail or email, please contact: Narelle Williams on 02 9845 1473 or email narellw4@chw.edu.au.

