

SCOPE

Spring 2012

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Clinicians and researchers
unite to treat ovarian cancer

Fresh new look for
Mater Pharmacy

Alumni Dinner honours
130 years of service



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.



Welcome from the Editor

There are some exceptional people highlighted in this edition of Scope including Sr Angela Mary Doyle, Mater's Mercy Week winners, Caroline Hudson, A/Prof Jonathan Whitehead and the 25 adventurers who conquered Mt Kilimanjaro for Mater prostate cancer research just to name a few.

Their achievements are inspiring and I hope you enjoy reading their stories and the many others featured in this edition.

Also for those who enjoyed the Mater Doctors' Alumni Dinner, we have set a date for next year's event, please see page 12 for the details.

Finally, if you would like to contribute an article to Scope, such as a case study or even a review of an event, book, restaurant or car, we'd love to hear from you!

Best wishes
Miranda

Contributors

Editor - Miranda Hunt

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Thank you also to those who contributed to the current edition of *Scope*.

Scope welcomes your opinion. If you have an interesting patient case or a topical issue you would like to share with your colleagues, write to us.

Please email your contributions to the Editor, Miranda Hunt at miranda.hunt@mater.org.au. Names will be published unless otherwise stated.



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.

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A message from the CEO



Welcome to the Spring edition of Scope.

With one Australian woman dying from ovarian cancer every ten hours, Mater researchers and clinicians are working side-by-side under the Ovarian Cancer Research Collaborative to find new ways to treat this deadly disease (page six).

Led by MMRI, this collaborative is also looking at new ways to tailor treatment for each patient and, thanks to this unique approach, Mater hopes to advance treatment and provide exceptional care for ovarian cancer patients.

I am also delighted to announce that Mater Online is now up and running (page nine). The revitalised site provides GPs, VMOs, practice managers and allied health professionals with comprehensive and relevant items updated on a daily basis so you can be sure you are receiving the most up-to-date Mater information.

Mater Health Centre Hope Island held an Open Day on 28 October 2012. Themed around 'building a healthy community', the day celebrated the opening of the centre and enabled the

local community to explore the services on offer.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that Mr Brian Flannery, formerly the Deputy Chair of the Mater Board following the retirement of Professor John McAuliffe, with Mr Vince O'Rourke appointed as the new Deputy Chair (page five).

I also welcome Dr Geof Hirst to the Mater Board with effect from January 2013. Dr Hirst is well known at Mater through his previous roles as Director of Surgery, consultant to the Clinical Safety and Quality Unit and specialist urologist. His expertise and experience will be of great benefit for us all.

Dr John O'Donnell
CEO, Mater Health Services

Cover Story

Mater has launched a new Ovarian Cancer Research Collaborative in a bid to find new ways to tailor, and further advance, treatment options for patients.

For more details, see page six.

Dr Geof Hirst appointed to Mater Board

Mater Health Services is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Geof Hirst to the Mater Board with effect from January 2013. Dr Hirst is well known at Mater through his previous roles as Director of Surgery, consultant to the Clinical Safety and Quality Unit and specialist urologist.

Mater's Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell said he was delighted to welcome Dr Hirst to his new role.

"Geof has played a key role at Mater Health Services in our clinical services and I'm pleased that he has chosen to continue to share his expertise and experience with Mater by joining the Mater Board," Dr O'Donnell said.

Following the retirement of Professor John McAuliffe from the Chairmanship of the board earlier this year, Mr Brian Flannery has been appointed Chair and long-standing board member Mr Vince O'Rourke has been appointed Deputy Chair.



Dr Geof Hirst

Sister Angela Mary recognised for lifetime of service

Sister Angela Mary Doyle was recently recognised for her enduring contribution to the Catholic health and aged care communities in Australia at the Catholic Health Australia Annual Awards.

After completing a diploma of nursing administration in 1964, Sr Angela Mary was appointed Hospital Administrator—what would today be equivalent to being the Chief Executive Officer—of Mater Hospitals. She served in that capacity for 22 years, also completing a bachelor of business during that period.

Sr Angela Mary later ran the Mater Hospital Trust (now Mater Foundation) which has made a major contribution to the growth of Mater services, thanks in no small part to her making a number of phone calls seeking donations and support.

In her own version of retirement, Sr Angela Mary continues to write books, conduct interviews and work for social justice; it's a commitment that has always shaped her life and her way of thinking.

Catholic Health Australia Chief Executive Officer Martin Laverty said Sr Angela Mary was a remarkable role model for anyone involved in the provision of health, aged and community care.



Caroline acknowledged at awards ceremony

Congratulations to Executive Director of People and Learning Caroline Hudson for being a finalist in this year's Telstra Business Women's Awards.

The Telstra Business Women's Awards are held each year rewarding the incredible achievements of business women across the country. There are five award categories and this year there were more than 4000 nominations.

Caroline was a finalist in the White Pages Community and Government Award category for influencing Mater's Board to develop a sustainable, productive, highly engaged and accountable workforce and implementing and significantly improving payroll and rostering systems.

Caroline was acknowledged for overseeing a 200 per cent increase in productivity in HR, a 31 per cent rise in the retention of graduate nurses and a 99 per cent reduction in needlestick injuries from non-hypodermic syringes.

"I feel very honoured to be among the finalists for this award against some outstanding individuals," Ms Hudson said.

"I am most proud of leading a team that has made such a major contribution to the change in Mater's culture, HR practices and workforce engagement that has now positioned it as an industry."

The award ceremony was held on Friday 5 October, where Caroline was awarded her finalist certificate, with the winner of her category being Carolyn Devries from New Way Lawyers while Tèrese Rein was voted overall 2012 Telstra Queensland Business Woman of the Year.

Work begins on new nursing school

Construction of the new UQ Mater Clinical School at Redland is now underway.

The new clinical school—located on the top floor of a building in Middle Street, Cleveland—will be completed in time for The University of Queensland (UQ) to commence delivery of their Bachelor of Nursing program in February 2013.

The new Clinical School at Redland will provide a full range of facilities such as:

- a six bed simulated patient care environment with toilets and shower
- two problem-based learning tutorial rooms
- broadband UQ intranet access, including full wireless coverage
- office space for clinical lecturers
- a meeting room and storage space
- a new lift at the rear of the building and an innovative social networking space for students to enjoy.



The new clinical school will enable UQ students living in the Redland Shire to study close to home and undertake clinical placements at local high-quality health care organisations including Mater Private Hospital Redland, Redland Public Hospital and other health care facilities in the community.

The UQ Mater Clinical School at Redland is funded by the Australian Government via a Health Workforce Australia funding initiative.



Sr Angela Mary Doyle, Dr John O'Donnell and Sr Nuala Doyle at the Catholic Health Australia Annual Awards.

Recognition for a Queensland great ...

Sister Angela Mary has received a number of other accolades including the Queensland Premier's inaugural Queensland Greats award in 2001. She was appointed to the Order of Australia in 1993 and has received honorary doctorates from the Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University.

Cross-campus approach to fighting ovarian cancer



Mater Ovarian Cancer Research Collaborative team members:

- A/Prof Lewis Perrin
- A/Prof Jane Armes
- Dr Catherine Shannon
- Prof Alex Crandon
- Dr Naven Chetty
- Dr Rohan Lourie
- Dr Niara Oliveira
- Dr Jim Coward
- Claire Davies
- Dr David Munster
- Dr Kristen Radford
- Prof Mike McGuckin
- A/Prof Geoff Faulkner
- A/Prof Janet Hardy
- Prof Deon Venter
- Eilish Jacobs
- Dr Sarah Wallace
- A/Prof John Hooper
- Amy Purdon
- Brittney Harrington
- Joel Challen
- Kyle Upton
- Thu Nguyen
- Farah Firdaus
- Jennifer Short
- Talitha Ketchell
- Helen Anderson

“We are heading towards a more personalised offering; rather than treat everyone the same, we want to find out the characteristics of their cancer cells and treat them with the specific agents to which they are susceptible.” A/Prof Lewis Perrin

Mater is tackling ovarian cancer through a cross-campus collaborative drawing on the expertise of researchers and clinical staff to identify better diagnostics, therapeutics and eventually vaccines.

The Mater Ovarian Cancer Research Collaborative (MOCRC) is the first of its kind for Mater and includes staff who specialise in research, gynaecological oncology and surgery, anatomical pathology, oncology, palliative care, genomics and proteomics.

The ultimate goal of the collaborative is to tailor the treatment of ovarian cancer patients at Mater to ensure specific targeting of the correct cancer gene in the individual patient, resulting in more effective and less toxic treatment, making for better outcomes for patients.

MOCRC Research Coordinator Claire Davies said there had been strong support for the new venture from across the Mater campus.

“We really wanted to take advantage of the expertise which is available across a wide spectrum of departments at Mater,” Ms Davies said.

“One of the greatest concerns with ovarian cancer is that it is still often not diagnosed until it is quite late stage; there is still

only a 40 per cent survival rate for five years post-diagnosis.”

“It is our hope that our research can help to increase the rate of survival; we want to find better diagnostic tests and also identify the best treatment plan,” Associate Professor Jane Armes added.

Although still in its infancy, having only received Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) approval in June 2012, the MOCRC already has three research studies underway with another three pending HREC approval.

Associate Professor John Hooper is studying the molecular drivers of ovarian cancer while Dr Kristen Radford is working towards the targeted delivery of ovarian cancer antigens to dendritic cells for immunotherapy and Dr David Munster is looking at optimising therapeutic antibodies for ovarian cancer.

“These last two projects aim to use the patient’s own immune system to help fight her cancer,” Dr Munster said.

According to Ms Davies the group has also been contacted by other interested investigators who are keen to get involved.

Patient recruitment is underway with 50 patients consenting to the use of their blood, tissue and ascites for research.

“We are looking for patients who have been diagnosed with, or are suspected of having, ovarian cancer; even those whose histology results come back as non-malignant can still be involved as we are using those samples as reference points,” Ms Davies said.

“By using state-of-the-art technologies such as next-generation sequencing these research studies will enhance our understanding of ovarian cancer pathogenesis, and thus help contribute to a more accurate and timely diagnosis, improved treatment and ultimately patients’ outcome.

“By comparing tissue from the primary tumour with metastatic deposits and analysing tissue samples pre and post chemotherapy, we can better understand the mechanisms involved in metastasis, the altered biology of the tumour and the development of chemotherapy resistance.

“Future directions may involve testing during treatment to ensure that the most appropriate targeted therapy is being used.”

The collaborative collects blood, ascites and fresh tissue specimens from consented patients presenting or suspected of having ovarian cancer. If you can help, please contact Claire via Claire.Davies@mater.org.au.

As part of the MOCRC, there will be a monthly forum held on the last Monday of each month at 3.30 pm, all interested staff are invited to attend.



Priceless values

By Don Murray

Anyone who has even a cursory interest in current affairs would be aware that the topic of values has been front and centre of mainstream media of late. The cycling world has been particularly affected where it seems that values have hit the saddle and literally ridden off.

Please excuse my terrible puns but I wish to subtly make a point.

How does this relate to Mater? Well, we are a values based organisation and our values of Mercy, Dignity, Care, Commitment and Quality adorn every corporate card and letterhead. But our commitment to these values goes further than simply printing them on our stationary.

I think that it is fair to say that our values pervade the organisation; they are integral to our recruitment process and alignment with our values is sought from every new employee.

They are our benchmark, the hymn sheet from which we all sing.

Recent VMO surveys highlight that many medical specialists prefer working at Mater because of our values. This is a big deal for Mater as we are not the only values-based health care organisation in Brisbane.

I believe that Mater’s values unite us and transcend our position titles and roles. I am proud to work for an organisation that has such a commitment to the values that underpin the great work that we do.

At Mater our values are not a cycle or fad, they are the default setting, the norm. I think that we can all appreciate the value in that.

Mater staff recognised in

Mercy Week



Clinical Services Award winner Maree Reynolds.



Support Services Award winner Joy Cherry.

Mater staff have been recognised at this year's Mercy Awards for exceptional contributions to the organisation.

The Mercy Awards are held each September as part of Mater's celebration of Mercy Week to celebrate Mater's identity and the heritage of the Sisters of Mercy.

Mater's Executive Director of Mission Leadership, Madonna McGahan said Mercy Week was an organisation wide acknowledgement of Mater's ongoing commitment to its Mission and Values.

"The Mercy Awards give us an opportunity to acknowledge the people around us who deliver exceptional care and are divided into three categories—clinical services, support services and team.

"We received more than 70 nominations for the 2012 Mercy Awards which honour exceptional contributions to the organisation in the three categories," Ms McGahan said.

On being presented with the Clinical Services Award, Ms Reynolds said she was overwhelmed to have been nominated.

"I feel very honoured to receive the Mercy Award given its history and association with the work of the Sisters of Mercy. I feel privileged to work at Mater alongside colleagues who epitomise Mater's Mission and Values in every aspect of their work."

Ms McGahan said the Mercy Awards were a great example of Mater's Mercy heritage and identity.

"They are an example of our demonstrated commitment to continue to honour those who have come before us, as well as celebrating the contribution of every person who helps to bring exceptional care to people who come to Mater. In remembering our past, and celebrating our present, we are helping to shape the future of Mater," Ms McGahan said.

This year's winners were:

Clinical Services Award: Maree Reynolds, Director of Women's Health Services

Team Award: MyHR Human Resource Information System

Support Services Award: Joy Cherry, Mater Children's Hospital Theatre Nurse and Volunteer Coordinator



Team Award winners: The MyHR Human Resources Information System team.

Mater Online refreshed and unveiled



Mater has launched its new-look website for the medical community, www.materonline.org.au, designed with the user in mind. The revitalised site provides general practitioners (GPs), visiting medical officers (VMOs), practice managers and allied health professionals with comprehensive and relevant information in an easy to navigate format.

The site is updated on a daily basis so you can be sure you are receiving the most up-to-date Mater information. Exciting features include:

Specialist guide – quick search function to assist with streamlining referrals, including contact details, images and biographies of Mater specialists.

Referrals – easy access to referral forms for Mater hospitals and services, for insured and uninsured patients.

What's on – annual GP education program with details of upcoming events including instant online registration and confirmation facilities.

GP resources – presentations and handouts from our events available to download.

Mater Doctor Portal – providing a single point of access to Mater electronic clinical information exchange.

Clinical services and facilities – details to assist you in your practice, with links to patient information.

Latest news and clinical updates – to benefit you and your practice.

Contact us – includes direct contact details for Mater hospitals, business units and your local medical liaison officer for queries and assistance.

 **Explore and experience Mater's refreshed website for the medical community at www.materonline.org.au.**



Celebrating our achievements

By Mish Hill

Over the past few months Mater staff have been celebrating—celebrating our achievements and celebrating each other.

Most of these celebrations have focused on our exceptional staff with both the Long Service and Mercy awards recognising the outstanding contributions made by members of our Mater family.

But for each staff member recognised at any of these events, there is often one, two or many more doing their bit to ensure Mater lives up to our tagline of *Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.*

It is with great pride that I share with you that Mater Children's Hospital was recently involved in another Australian-first medical procedure.

Professor Tom Karl, was the first surgeon in the world to use a new heart patch to repair holes in the heart walls of children with congenital heart defects.

Prof Karl and the theatre team performed three surgeries using the patch, which mimics human tissue, during its launch week.

Keep an eye out for the Summer issue of Scope for more on this great advancement.

In other good news, Mater Adult Hospital's theatre staff won \$10 000 for Mater chicks in pink after entering the Medline Australia 'Pink Glove Dance' competition.

As part of the initiative, which was designed to raise awareness of breast cancer, the team donned their 'pink gloves' and danced their way around the campus.

It's definitely worth a look and is sure to brighten up your day.

Mater Health Centres update

Mater is committed to building a healthy community by expanding its non-hospital health services into developing communities, providing opportunities for people to access exceptional care within their local area.



Mater Health Centre Hope Island, the northern Gold Coast's first dedicated medical centre, is pleased to announce the opening of Queensland X-Ray. This radiology service supports local doctors and provides the local community with access to computerised tomography, dental imaging, plain x-ray and ultrasound.

With this radiology service open, Mater Health Centre Hope Island now offers a suite of medical services including pharmacy, pathology, specialist doctors, physiotherapy, podiatry, dentistry, radiology and general practice.

These services were a key feature at the recent Mater Health Centre Hope Island Open Day where the local community came together for a fun day out to enjoy free health checks and

demonstrations, live music, delicious food and excitement for the kids including face painting and a jumping castle.

Building works on Mater's third health centre, Mater Health Centre Brookwater, is on schedule with an expected opening to the local community in February 2013.

Located within Brookwater Retail Village, Mater Health Centre Brookwater will feature Mater private specialists alongside a range of complementary health service providers including Mater Pharmacy, Mater Pathology, physiotherapy, podiatry, dentistry, orthodontics and radiology.

▶ www.mater.org.au/healthcentres

Mater's maternity offering at the click of a button



Expectant mothers looking to deliver at Mater now have access to a wide range of valuable resources—all from the comfort of their home.

Mothers-to-be, and their families, can take a guided tour of Mater's three maternity hospitals

including birth suites, theatres, antenatal and postnatal services all by visiting maternity.mater.org.au.

To help women choose their ideal clinician for one of life's most beautiful moments, video profiles of Mater Mothers' Private Hospital obstetricians are also now online.

We've also made it easy for women and general practitioners to identify which obstetricians are signed on to use the new Mater Shared Electronic Health Record.

"I hope that being able to share what inspires me to deliver babies and the exceptional environment at Mater Mothers will show expectant mothers the human side of obstetrics and obstetricians," Obstetrician Dr Stephen Cattanach said.

For the statically minded we show the number of babies born daily, weekly and monthly as well as the total born so far in the year.

Fresh new look for Mater Pharmacy

Mater Pharmacy has recently partnered with Chemmart (a national pharmacy brand) and its stores have undergone an interior refurbishment program to provide visitors with a pharmacy solution tailored to their needs in a bright and welcoming environment.

These changes have provided an opportunity to broaden the products Mater Pharmacy can provide and a comprehensive range of skin care, toiletries, cosmetics, fragrance, jewellery and giftware is now on offer.

Whilst Mater Pharmacy is still fully owned and independently operated by Mater Health Services the partnership is recognised by the presence of the Chemmart logo on various signage and is supported by a Rewards Program.

Please visit Mater Pharmacy or register online at www.chemmart.com.au to obtain your Rewards card which provides you with \$5 of Chemmart cash for every \$100 spent—



with the exception of purchases of Pharmacy Only medicines, prescriptions and baby formula. Chemmart cash can be used at the Mater South Brisbane pharmacy or at any of the 250 Chemmart Pharmacies throughout Australia.

Mater Pharmacy is open from Monday to Friday 8 am to 6 pm at two locations in South Brisbane:

- Level 2, Mater Children's Hospital
- Level 6, Mater Private Hospital Brisbane

Mater Pharmacy is also open at Mater Health Centre Redland and Hope Island.

Smiling for Smiddy
Noosa Smiddy Challenge
Funding cancer research

25 - 28 April 2013

- 4 days, 600 kilometres
- Cycle Brisbane to Noosa then stay on in paradise for a further 3 days cycling through the picturesque hinterland of the Sunshine Coast
- Enjoy family friendly accommodation at the beautiful Noosa RACV Resort



For more information visit: smiddy.org.au

Ride with a Legend

Aussie cycling legend **Phil Anderson** joins the Smiddy peloton as special guest on the Noosa Smiddy Challenge.



Alumni Dinner

honours 130 years of service

Held at Customs House, the Mater Doctors' Alumni Dinner on 24 August provided an opportunity for Mater doctors, colleagues and friends to reunite and celebrate the passing of another year.

It was also a chance for guests to celebrate the retirement of four exceptional Mater specialists: Dr Paul Atkins (General Surgeon), Dr Rosslyn Walker (Paediatric Surgeon), Dr Frank Crimmins (Gastroenterologist) and Dr Nanette Crimmins (Anaesthetist), who have together given more than 130 years service to Mater.

In addition to the formalities of the evening, guests enjoyed a sumptuous award-winning three course dinner, accompanied by a selection of Australian Yarra Valley wines.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us to celebrate this special evening.

Photos:

1. Prof David Tudehope, Bronwyn Tudehope, Dr Shane Higgins and Ciara Higgins
2. David Miller and Dr Rosslyn Walker
3. Sue Lewandowski and Dr Richard Lewandowski
4. Jan Olsen and Dr Trevor Olsen
5. Jerry Maycock, Dr Patricia Matthews, Dr Elizabeth Maycock, Dr Kerry O'Connell and Stephen Williams
6. Dr Frank Crimmins and Dr Nanette Crimmins
7. Dr John Hynes and Gloria Hynes
8. Dr Peter O'Regan, Marylou Thearle, Marilyn O'Regan and Dr M John Thearle
9. Dr Paul Bretz and Therese Bretz
10. Dr Paul Atkins and Dr Simon Bowler
11. Dr Thomas Potter, Dr Robert Campbell, Mahar Gandhi and Dr Catherine Duffy
12. Therese Gattas and Dr Michael Gattas
13. Kerry Estella and Dr Eugene Estella



Save the date:
Don't forget to mark
Friday 23 August 2013
in your diaries for next
year's Mater Doctors'
Alumni Dinner.

Dr Benjamin Hope



Specialty

Orthopaedics

Dr Benjamin Hope is an Orthopaedic Surgeon with a special interest in upper limb surgery.

Dr Hope graduated with an MBBS degree (Hons) from The University of Tasmania in 2000, and obtained a fellowship from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in Orthopaedic Surgery in 2009.

He has also completed fellowships in hand surgery at St Luke's Private Hospital and the Sydney Hospital Hand Unit, shoulder surgery at the Instituto Clinica Humanitas, Italy, alongside renowned surgeon Dr Alessandro Castagna, and upper limb surgery at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane.

Dr Hope has a public appointment at Princess Alexandra Hospital and operates privately at Mater Private Hospital Redland.

His special interests include hand and wrist surgery, trauma and microsurgery and shoulder surgery, including both open and arthroscopic procedures.

Dr Charles Chao



Specialty

Cardiology

Dr Charles Chao is an associate of Queensland Cardiovascular Group.

Graduating from The University of Melbourne in medicine in 2002, Dr Chao completed his basic and advanced physician training at Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and Princess Alexandra Hospital and obtained Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in Cardiology in 2010.

He then completed a fellowship in non-invasive cardiac imaging at MonashHeart, Monash Medical Centre in Victoria, followed by a fellowship in Cardiac MRI at The Heart Hospital, London, UK.

He passed EuroCMR exam in Vienna in 2012 and has SCCT level 3 and SCMR level 2 accreditations.

Dr Chao is a member of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, the American Society of Echocardiography and Society of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance.

He is an invited speaker at the RADaim 2012 and is a registered practitioner with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and General Medical Council UK.

Dr Benjamin Erzetic



Specialty

Oral and maxillofacial surgery

Dr Benjamin Erzetic is a registered oral and maxillofacial surgeon (OMS) with the recently created Medical and Dental Boards of Australia (AHPRA).

Dr Erzetic operates at Mater Private Hospital Redland and has been in specialist practice for the past 10 years following extensive training in the field of OMS.

Dr Erzetic has been a visiting medical officer at Mater since 2002 and is closely involved in the development of the new Queensland Children's Hospital.

He is also involved in the education and training of new surgeons at a national level as a member of the Board of Studies for the College of OMS Surgeons as well as locally as the Director of Training for the Queensland Maxillofacial Surgical training program.

He is a current examiner for the College of OMS Surgeons and the Chair of the Training Advisory Committee.

Dr Erzetic is also a consultant surgeon to the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and is directly involved in the management of facial trauma arising from our serving personnel.



A/Prof John Hooper

Mater researcher awarded an \$820 000 Future Fellowship

Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) researcher Associate Professor John Hooper has been awarded an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship worth \$820 000 over four years.

A/Prof Hooper's research aims to characterise a protein known to drive the spread of cancer.

With collaboration from researchers in the United States and Spain, A/Prof Hooper's goal is to develop new approaches to treat patients at risk of developing these aggressive tumours that spread to other organs.

"In contrast with localised cancer which can often be cured, curative treatment is generally not possible for cancer that has spread," A/Prof Hooper said.

"This Fellowship allows me and my team—Yaowu He, Lez Burke, Mark Adams, Deb Roche, Brittney Harrington and Annie Lassemillante—to continue working towards finding new ways to treat people with cancer, specifically focusing on prostate, colorectal and ovarian cancer at this stage.

"Because of this funding, I can do some of the riskier, higher-impact type research."

A/Prof Hooper said the benefit of being based at MMRI was the opportunity to

interface with the clinical staff who are treating patients.

"We are marrying up the basic expertise we have in the lab with the clinical excellence we have in the hospital. I'm excited about being about to continue to strengthen those relationships," A/Prof Hooper said.

A/Prof Hooper's main collaborators include Director of Anatomical Pathology, Associate Professor Jane Armes; Director of Gynaecological Oncology, Associate Professor Lew Perrin; Urologist, Dr Peter Swindle and Consultant Pathologist, Dr Bhuvana Srinivasan.

MMRI Deputy Director of Research Professor Michael McGuckin said the Fellowship was a fitting reward for A/Prof Hooper's work since joining MMRI.

"John has been a fabulous contributor to MMRI over the past two years and has been working hard to enmesh basic and clinical research in oncology so this is a fitting reward for his efforts," Prof McGuckin said.

The Future Fellowships scheme began in 2009, to increase the opportunities for highly qualified mid-career researchers to work in Australia, rather than overseas.

New head chef leads the way



Food served across Mater is now under the direction of Aman Marwah following his appointment as Executive Chef—Hotel Services.

Executive Director Clinical Support Services Dr John Gilmour said Mr Marwah's experience as a senior leader and his international culinary expertise in both Eastern and Western cuisine was a significant opportunity for Mater.

"Aman comes to us from his most recent role as Executive Chef at the Melbourne Radisson Hotel. He has extensive experience in the wider food industry and specifically in private services," Dr Gilmour said.

"He will also have an important role in the delivery of the new Room Service Model Project for Mater Private Hospital Brisbane."

What inspired you to become a chef?
It was the creative freedom involved and the intense and fast paced work environment.

Where are some of the places where you have previously worked?
The Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai, India; Radisson Playford Hotel, Adelaide (now Sebel Playford); Hyatt Regency Hotel, Adelaide (now Intercontinental).

What has been your biggest challenge at Mater so far?
Getting to understand the layout of the services points (where, when and how food is being delivered and served).

Do you do much cooking at home and what is your favourite meal to cook?
That is my wife's domain so I don't mess around with the chef but I do jump in every now and then and do a bit of oriental cooking.

Case Study by Dr Tim McMeniman

Patellofemoral instability

Dr Tim McMeniman is an Orthopaedia Surgeon who specialises in treating sports injuries of the lower limb, knee arthroscopy and joint replacement of the knee and hip.

Case

A 28 year old male salesman, presented with left knee patella instability over a five year period.

The patient found that his patella would subluxate and his knee would give way while running, and multiple minor instability episodes occurred in his activities of daily living. Immediately prior to presentation his patella again dislocated completely while playing football.

Physical Examination

Significant examination found there were slight valgus malalignment with quadriceps wasting. The patellofemoral joint demonstrated significant crepitus. With the knee flexed to 30 degrees the patella translated laterally to the point of dislocation with significant apprehension on the part of the patient. The patients Q angle (Quadriceps angle – a line from the ASIS to the centre of the patella and then to the centre of the tibial tuberosity) was normal.

Investigation

MRI scan revealed dysplasia of the femoral trochlea with flattening of the trochlea groove in addition to significant cartilage damage. The medial patellofemoral ligament and medial capsule were in discontinuity, reflecting disruption of the soft tissue restrains to lateral patella dislocation.

Pathoanatomy

With the patellofemoral joint, as with any synovial joint, the factors that contribute to stability are bony congruency, static soft tissue structures (ligaments) and dynamic soft tissue structures (muscles). In the case above, trochlea dysplasia and rupture of the medial patellofemoral ligament, and quadriceps wasting all contributed to ongoing instability.

Management Options

Non-operative and operative options were discussed. The patient had tried non-operative management including physiotherapy, quadriceps retraining, bracing and taping over a long period and unfortunately continued to have symptomatic patella instability even with his activities of daily living as well as sport.



The surgical options are directed by the underlying pathology. In this case the Quadriceps angle was normal, so transfer of the tibial tubercle to realign the axis of the extensor mechanism was not indicated. His medial patellofemoral ligament had been ruptured, leading to excessive lateral translation of the patella in the trochlea groove and his quadriceps were wasted despite attempts at rehabilitation.

Given his age, and the activities he wished to return to, he opted for surgical stabilisation.

Procedure:
Arthroscopy and Medial Patellofemoral Ligament (MPFL) reconstruction



Arthroscopy confirmed significant cartilage loss on the patellofemoral joint. The patient's gracilis tendon was harvested and used to reconstruct the MPFL passing through a bone tunnel in the patella and

“

Patellofemoral instability is usually due to a combination of traumatic factors and anatomical predisposition.

”

secured into the medial femoral condyle once tensioned with the use of an interference screw.

Result

The patient was able to full weight-bear in a knee splint on day one post-operatively. At two weeks active range of motion exercises commenced, and at six weeks the splint was discarded. A structured rehabilitation process supervised by an experienced musculoskeletal physiotherapist was then undertaken from weeks two to 12 focusing on quadriceps strengthening and range of motion.

Following this, the patient was then able to undertake a graduated return to recreational sports. Mild anterior knee pain continued with impact activity due to the underlying patellofemoral chondral damage, but did not limit sport or rehabilitation. By one year post operatively he was back to activities including 'boot camp' style cross training and wakeboarding without any further episodes of instability.

Summary

Patellofemoral instability is usually due to a combination of traumatic factors and anatomical predisposition. Non-operative management is always the primary method of treatment focusing on quadriceps strengthening. Failing this any surgical intervention should be targeted at redressing the underlying anatomical pathology.



If you would like to submit a Case by Case article, please email Brooke.Falvey@mater.org.au. All cases submitted should include a brief background, description of how the case progressed, outcome and images.

Jonathan's research recognised

Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) researcher Associate Professor Jonathan Whitehead was named the Heart Foundation Researcher of the Year for his research into ways to control fat cells.

A/Prof Whitehead's research aims to increase our understanding of how the body produces new fat cells and will potentially lead to the development of a new set of strategies to protect people from the effects of obesity and heart disease.

"Recent research has shown that under conditions of positive energy balance—where more energy is absorbed from food than is expended through physical activity—the body may respond by increasing the size of existing fat cells, rather than generating new cells in which to store fat," A/Prof Whitehead said.

"This leads to problems within the fat tissue that can contribute to the development of cardiovascular disease.

"On the other hand, people who retain the ability to generate new fat cells have smaller and healthier fat cells, and are better protected from some of the harmful effects of obesity."

As part of his project, A/Prof Whitehead will build on previous



A/Prof Jonathan Whitehead

Heart Foundation—funded findings that have identified a novel biological mechanism that controls the production of fat cells.

The Heart Foundation Queensland Annual Awards were held at Hillstone St Lucia on 13 September.

Heart Foundation Queensland Chief Executive Officer Cameron Prout said heart disease remained Australia's number one killer.

"Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Heart Foundation has helped fund ground breaking heart research, contributed to significant medical breakthroughs and run Australia's most popular school-based physical activity program, Jump Rope for Heart," Mr Prout said.

A lesson in history

A tragic event in Mater history took place on 1 December 1955. On that day, Karl Kast murdered Dr Arthur Meehan and injured Drs John Lahz and Michael Gallagher—all Mater honorary orthopaedic surgeons.

Dr John Murray from the Brisbane General Hospital was also killed. Karl Kast had sought help from each of the doctors for a work related back injury for which he wanted compensation. When unsuccessful, he armed himself with a gun and home-made bombs and went to their consulting rooms on Wickham Terrace.

He first shot Dr Gallagher in Wickham House and then proceeded to Ballow Chambers where he shot and killed Drs Meehan and Murray and menaced Dr Lahz. He then exploded a bomb, shot himself and died soon after.

Dr Meehan (1890-1955) was the first postgraduate trained orthopaedic surgeon in Queensland and was generally regarded as the "father of orthopaedics" in Queensland. In 1931 he was asked by the Sisters of Mercy to establish



an Orthopaedics Department in the newly opened Mater Children's Hospital. His assistant was Dr John Lahz (1900-1959) and both went on to establish the Orthopaedic Department in the Public Hospital in 1938. They remained honorary orthopaedic surgeons at Mater until their deaths.

Although Dr Lahz was not injured in the incident, his health never recovered from the shock and sadly he died four years later. Dr Gallagher (1919-2009) worked at Mater from 1946 until his retirement in 1980. Although he was shot three times on the tragic day, he returned to work at Mater after a lengthy recovery.

For more information on the history of orthopaedics please contact the Mater Archives and Heritage Centre.

Climbing Kilimanjaro

by Dr Stuart Philip



It started as a spur of the moment decision one morning in February, "Why don't we climb a mountain to raise money for prostate cancer research?" It sounded easy.

After six months of gym visits, climbs up Mt Coot-tha and pleading with family, friends and colleagues for donations we were on our way to Africa!

In August, 25 intrepid adventurers set off for the trip of a lifetime with myself and three others—business manager Kim Wilson and nurse practitioners Jude Logan and Kylie Everitt—representing the Mater Urology and Continence Unit.

After 24 hours travelling we were straight in to it with a visit to the Mater Hospital in Nairobi.

It was amazing to see what they achieve with no government funding and it was nice to see beds, lights, radiology and anaesthetic equipment that have come from Mater in Brisbane.

After two days in Nairobi, in which we also visited the Mukuru slum, education centre and boys' centre, we travelled to Tanzania for the big climb.

Mt Kilimanjaro remained shrouded in cloud so it was a couple of days before we could fully comprehend the magnitude of the climb.

Over the course of four days we made our way to Kibo Hut which is 4700m above sea level.

With 90 porters, cooks and guides we were like a small town moving up the mountain and each day became progressively more difficult as the temperature got colder and the altitude higher.

"Each and every one of us pushed ourselves to the limit both physically and mentally."

Although a number of people struggled with altitude sickness and gastroenteritis, we began our push for the summit at 11.30 pm.

With headlights on and many layers of clothing to combat the minus 15 degrees celsius temperature we set off.

I wondered why you ascend at night and have decided that it is so that you can't see what is ahead of you to climb!

Finally, at 7 am, I was standing on the highest point in Africa at 5895m!

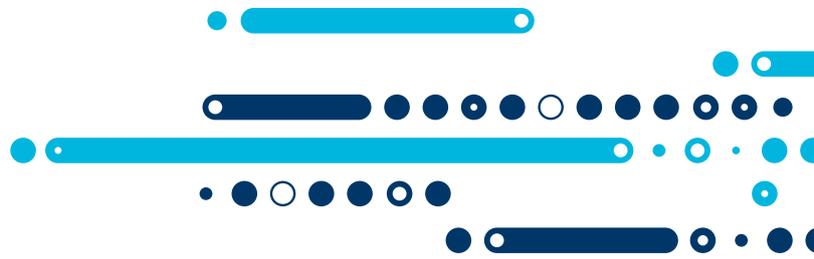
Despite being cold, tired and short of breath, it was a great feeling of accomplishment; not only had we raised \$325 000 for prostate cancer but each and every one of us pushed ourselves to the limit both physically and mentally.

Over the next two days we made our way down the mountain which, in some respects, was as difficult as going up; my knees as well as every other joint in my body were sore by the end but an evening of pizza helped make up for it.

Sad goodbyes were made as we all headed in different directions but now the planning can start for the next Mater fundraising adventure!



If you missed out on tackling the climb, you can still make a difference by participating in a skydive for prostate cancer. Face your fear and register now at www.talkingpc.org.au.



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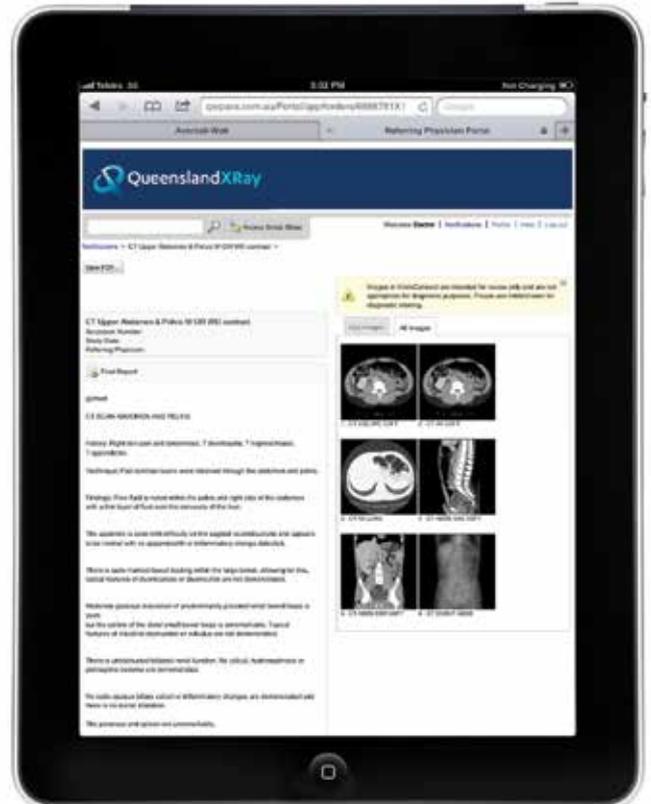
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If you have any questions, please contact **Doctor Direct** on **1800 77 99 77**.