

MATER RESEARCHER MAKES CHEMO SAFER

Mater Research Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler has discovered a breakthrough which could relieve patients suffering from cancer treatment by making chemotherapy safer.

A/Prof Winkler's research has resulted in being able to flick a biological switch that enables the immune system to be better protected during chemotherapy.

A/Prof Winkler said her research at the Translational Research Institute had discovered how to put Haematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) to sleep and wake them up again when needed.

"These HSC cells are important in regenerating immune systems," A/Prof Winkler said.

"Many patients who take high doses of chemotherapy, in particular those with leukaemia, suffer from severe mucositis and in some cases this leads to mortality.

"Usually when chemo is finished, a patient has nothing left to fight infection. This is because with the immune system temporarily down, patients become susceptible to bacterial infections.

"I've found a way of putting these normal cells back to sleep so they can resist the chemotherapy treatment."

Strong interest has been received by a US pharmaceutical company which would fund a patient trial of the drug in Brisbane as early as next year.

Mater Research CEO Professor John Prins said the work by A/Prof Winkler was a significant breakthrough particularly as about 25 000 Queenslanders are diagnosed with cancer, many of whom will undergo chemotherapy.

"A/Prof Winkler's research is a culmination of years of dedicated work which will improve the quality of life of many cancer sufferers across the country," he said.

A/Prof Winkler has received \$240 000 in Queensland Government funding so far for this research program, with a further \$120 000 to be provided over the next year.

"Many patients who take high doses of chemotherapy, in particular those with leukaemia, suffer from severe mucositis and in some cases this leads to mortality."



Prime Minister Tony Abbott visited Mater Research Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler to discuss her research recently.



GENERALLY SPEAKING DIRECT TO YOUR INBOX

Generally Speaking is transitioning to an e-newsletter format, making it more convenient for you to access relevant news from Mater.

The e-newsletter will be sent directly to your nominated inbox on a bi-monthly basis to provide you with important information on GP education events and exciting news on Mater services and medical advancements.

If you would like to register please email the following details to marketing@mater.org.au (name, email, practice name and telephone number).

MATER GP EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Saturday 1 to Sunday 2 November 2014, Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort and Spa

The program for the Mater GP Education Conference is now available online. The program covers a variety of topics including an interactive panel on women's health, neurology, medical oncology, cardiac intervention and neuroimaging. Additional sessions on Advanced Life Support and the Mater GP Maternity Shared Care Advanced Alignment Program will also be available on Saturday.

Mater continues to lead the way in GP Education, featuring informative and interactive educational sessions, along with excellent networking opportunities. Don't miss your opportunity to gain valuable RACGP points.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND PROGRAM UPDATES

To register or for further information please visit Mater's online registration portal located at www.materonline.org.au/2014 or contact Ashley Nicholson on **07 3163 8623** or email ashley.nicholson@mater.org.au.



INTERIM REPORTS FOR MATER PATHOLOGY

pathology.mater.org.au

Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.

Interim reports for Mater Pathology

Mater Pathology is now releasing interim/preliminary reports for some microbiology tests which will allow reports to be downloaded before they are completed and finalised.

Why is Mater Pathology making interim reports available?

Interim reports will allow referring doctors to see important clinical information earlier, such as cell counts on specimens while the work up is still underway (for example microbial cultures). This will allow requesting doctors to get an early indication of the final result.

How will it work?

Updated versions of interim reports will become available for download. Depending on individual medical practice settings, multiple entries might occur as each report is released. Please view the most recent report. Some systems will overwrite the previous report with the most up to date results.

Once analysis has been completed, a final report will be issued which will state "authorised" in the header.

What you need to know.

Please check whether a report is interim or final and authorised. See images below.

Interim Report

Patient: MICRO THROWMEAWAY	DOB: 01/01/1800	Collected: 28/05/2014 *UNK*
Address: Microbiology Lab, SOUTH BRISBANE	MRN:	Requested: 28/05/14
Referred by: DR S SCHLEBUSCH	Lab No: 14P434501	Printed: 29 May 2014 14:32
CC:	Ext No:	Interim / Preliminary Report
Hospital: Mater Path	Sex: Unknown	NATA/RCPA Accreditation No: 2623
Ward: Microbiology QC		Location: South Brisbane

Final Report

Patient: MICRO THROWMEAWAY	DOB: 01/01/1800	Collected: 28/05/2014 *UNK*
Address: Microbiology Lab, SOUTH BRISBANE	MRN:	Requested: 28/05/14
Referred by: DR S SCHLEBUSCH	Lab No: 14P434501	Printed: 29 May 2014 14:32
CC:	Ext No:	Authorised: 29 May 2014 14:33
Hospital: Mater Path	Sex: Unknown	NATA/RCPA Accreditation No: 2623
Ward: Microbiology QC		Location: South Brisbane

If the report is 'interim', please be aware that the result may change and ensure that you are viewing the most recent result. A comment will appear on the report to this effect and once the report is authorised the information is final.

If you have any questions please call **Microbiology at Mater Pathology** on **07 3163 8168**



WHICH DOCTOR?

DR ELIZABETH JARVIS

Nephrologist and General Physician Dr Elizabeth Jarvis practices at Mater Medical Centre at South Brisbane.



After graduating from University of Sydney, Dr Jarvis completed her nephrology and general medicine training with a special interest in obstetric medicine at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital and Mater Mothers' Hospital.

Having worked for several years in the public sector in both nephrology and obstetric medicine, she is experienced in managing wide-ranging and complex medical problems and has had an active role in training medical students and junior doctors.

Dr Jarvis has special interests in general aspects of kidney disease across all age groups including chronic kidney disease, dialysis and transplantation, and has also honed her expertise in obstetric nephrology. This involves dialysis and renal transplantation in pregnancy (along with management of immunosuppressive agents in pregnancy), all stages of chronic kidney disease in pregnancy, pre-eclampsia and hypertensive disorders in pregnancy.

She also has experience in managing many other non-nephrology diseases in pregnancy, particularly gestational diabetes and diabetes in pregnancy. She also offers women pre-pregnancy counselling and post-delivery care.

Referrals can be made to Dr Jarvis at:

Mater Medical Centre, Suite 15, Level 6
293 Vulture Street, South Brisbane QLD 4101

Telephone: 07 3010 5780

Facsimile: 07 3010 5781

Website: www.kidneycare.net.au

DR GEOFF MUDUIOA

A General Surgeon, Dr Geoff Muduioa has a subspecialty interest and experience in breast and endocrine surgery. Dr Muduioa consults from Mater Medical Centre and operates at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.



After graduating from the University of Otago, Dr Muduioa commenced his surgical training at Dunedin Hospital, New Zealand, where he also undertook his advanced general surgical training.

After completing his advanced general surgical training, he undertook two years of subspecialty training in breast and endocrine surgery at Christchurch Hospital in New Zealand and at Mater Adult Hospital.

Dr Muduioa deals with all aspects of general surgical disorders, such as abdominal wall hernia, skin lesions and gastrointestinal disorders. His endocrine surgical practice encompasses benign and malignant thyroid disorders, parathyroid surgery (minimally invasive as well as exploration), adrenal disorders, and carcinoid tumours.

Dr Muduioa also specialises in both benign and malignant breast disease. He has a special interest in oncoplastic breast techniques and can offer this to suitable patients. He also has interest in breast cancer risk reduction strategies in patients with a strong family history of the disease.

Referrals can be made to Dr Muduioa at:

Mater Medical Centre, Suite 15, Level 6
293 Vulture Street, South Brisbane QLD 4101

Telephone: 07 3010 5780

Facsimile: 07 3010 5781

MATER MOTHERS' HOSPITAL GP MATERNITY SHARED CARE ALIGNMENT AVAILABLE ONLINE

Both realignment and bridging programs developed to provide GPs with a more flexible option to maintain alignment with Mater Mothers' Hospital (MMH) is now available online. MMH has been providing GP Maternity Shared Care Alignment seminars since November 2008. There are now more than 740 GPs that have successfully aligned with the program. For more information and to register please visit www.materonline.org.au

ANNUAL REVIEW ONLINE

Mater Health Services 2013 Annual Review is now available and can be found on www.materonline.org.au. It highlights interesting stories on the many achievements fulfilled last year and the exciting projects and health initiatives that will continue in 2014.



Generally Speaking is proudly printed on recycled stock by a ISO 14001 accredited printer.

MATER MOTHERS' HOSPITAL RESEARCH TRIAL TO LOWER GESTATIONAL DIABETES

Mater Mothers' Hospital is inviting expectant mothers who struggle with their weight to volunteer for a new study to investigate the effects of probiotics to prevent gestational diabetes.

Mater Researcher Professor David McIntyre said the world-first study, being run at Mater Mothers' Hospitals and Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, would involve more than 500 pregnant women over two years.

"Gestational diabetes is a common complication of pregnancy, especially in women who are overweight or obese prior to conceiving," Prof McIntyre said.

"At Mater Mothers 10 to 13 per cent of our maternity patients—about 1000 women a year—are treated for gestational diabetes.

"We have a good treatment program for them but we'd rather prevent them from developing gestational diabetes in the first place," he said.

About five to nine per cent of pregnant women will develop gestational diabetes at around week 24 to week 28 of pregnancy.



Mater is running the double-blind trial to see if the probiotics lower blood sugar levels in pregnant women with a BMI of 25.0 or more.

The trial involves women taking a capsule from week 16 in their pregnancy every day until the birth of the baby as well as providing a few routine medical samples.

Expectant mums with a BMI of more than 25 kg/m² are welcome to take part in the study.

For more information or to refer patients for the trial please contact Mater clinical research coordinator Anne Tremellen on **07 3163 6312** or atremellen@mmri.mater.org.au

MATER BODY BALM AWARDED BRONZE

Mater Body Balm for pregnancy has won 'bronze' in the 2014 My Child Excellence Awards.

Mater Body Balm for pregnancy has gained a strong following demonstrated by its award in the 'Favourite Mum's Product' category, as voted by My Child readers across Australia and New Zealand.

From Australia's largest maternity service, the product was developed by Mater Midwives and Mums, a year ago.

This first product in the range has been developed to promote softness and elasticity and help reduce the appearance of stretch marks.

Developed specifically for pregnant women, Mater Body Balm for pregnancy features a gentle fragrance, is pH balanced and has been dermatologically tested to ensure it is suitable for even the most sensitive skin.



Mater Mothers maternity and baby care product range is an exciting step towards continuing Mater's exceptional care and expertise from the hospital to home.

Your expectant and new mothers can purchase Mater Body Balm for pregnancy from Mater Pharmacy or selected Terry White Chemists stores, Good Price Pharmacy Warehouse and Chemmart.