

We continue to introduce you to the PTNA team this month and in this Update we feature our Chair, Professor Andrew Davidson

**PTNA Chair – Professor Andrew Davidson**

Andrew Davidson is Senior Staff Anaesthetist and Director of Clinical Research for the Royal Children's Hospital. He is also Head of Anaesthesia Research at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Head of the Melbourne Children's Trial Centre and Associate Professor in Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne.

Andrew trained in anaesthesia in Melbourne, Nottingham, Rotterdam and Boston. He has received a Diploma of Biostatistics and Epidemiology and Doctorate of Medicine (MD) from University of Melbourne.

Currently editor in chief (elect) for the journal Paediatric Anaesthesia, Associate Editor for Anaesthesiology, Andrew has published over 90 peer reviewed publications, one book and 15 book chapters. He has been awarded four NHMRC grants along with major research grants in Canada and the UK, and is currently the ANZCA Lennard Travers Professor.



**GRANTS SEASON 2014**

We know that while many are currently thinking about Christmas or New Year celebrations, many *researchers* are already thinking about grant applications for 2014.

**It's time to contact us to get your quote for including WebSpirit data management in your grant budget.**

**Out and About in the Network:**

Luke Stevens (Data Management Coordinator, MCRI) demonstrated WebSpirit at the Clinical and Public Health Researchers Forum at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne in early November. The group of around a dozen research coordinators were shown WebSpirit's project and site management capabilities, data entry and checking (monitoring) functionality, and were introduced to the eCRF design and visit scheduling process. The demo was followed by questions and a discussion of WebSpirit's strong points relative to alternative systems, and several participants commented that it was a very interesting session.

Our Project Officer, Jennifer Thompson and Database Manager, Michael Emamooden have visited several member and non-member sites over the past two months to introduce them to the PTNA and WebSpirit. Presentations have been made at Sydney Children's Hospital, NSW (member site); The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney, NSW (member site); Hunter Medical Research Institute, Newcastle, NSW; Queensland Children's Medical Research Institute, Brisbane, QLD (member site); and The Canberra Hospital, ACT.

## NETWORK NEWS:

Australian Clinical Trials Alliance: The Committee of the PTNA are pleased to have been asked to participate on the organising committee for ACTA's first national summit of investigator-led clinical trials networks which will be held in 2014.

PTNA Website Update: Our website will be updated over the next couple of months and will have a new look. We will let you know as soon as it is "live". You can also find information about us on the Therapeutic Innovations Australia website here:

[http://www.therapeuticinnovation.com.au/Infrastructure/Clinical\\_Trials1/PTNA.aspx](http://www.therapeuticinnovation.com.au/Infrastructure/Clinical_Trials1/PTNA.aspx)

**If you have news or information on training opportunities you would like to share with the PTNA membership please feel free to email [info@ptna.com.au](mailto:info@ptna.com.au)**

## NEWS OF INTEREST:

### **Two-thirds of parents unaware of opportunities for their children in medical research**

From the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health comes the information that while nearly 1/2 of parents are willing to enrol their child in a clinical trial, 2/3 of parents are unaware of the trial opportunities available.

"This poll shows that the research community needs to step up and find ways to better reach parents about opportunities for children to participate, answer parents' questions about benefits and risks of participation, and potentially broaden the types of studies available."

Source: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/269428.php>

### **CareTrack Kids**

This NHMRC Partnership Project commencing in 2013 is supported by collaborative partners from our member institution Sydney Children's Health Network, as well as institutions around Australia and internationally. This major study will examine the appropriateness of care provided to children in Australia for 16 common conditions, the barriers to delivering care and the frequency and nature of adverse events involving children in our healthcare system.

Source: <http://research.unsw.edu.au/projects/caretrack-kids>

### **Data Management Strategies Presentation**

For those interested in learning more about Data Management Strategies a slide-set is available for simple download from MMS Holdings (<http://blog.mmsholdings.com/data-management-strategies/>). This presentation emphasises finalisation of eCRFs prior to moving ahead with study activation to encourage efficiency in processing and analysis of your research data.

### **Population Health Research – Sydney Children's Hospital Network (SCHN)**

Vivian Isaac was recently appointed as a Project Officer for Population Health Research. His role involves planning and evaluation of population health research activities at SCHN and to act as Secretariat for the Population Health Research Collaborative. Vivian can be contacted at [vivian.isaac@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vivian.isaac@health.nsw.gov.au).

**Studies currently utilising WebSpirit:**

**COMBAT CF:** A Phase 3, multi-centre, randomised, placebo-controlled study of azithromycin in the primary prevention of radiologically-defined bronchiectasis in infants with cystic fibrosis Lead Site: Queensland Children's Medical Research Institute.

**DMD:** Clinical trial of Zoledronic acid (Aclasta) in children and adolescents with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Lead site: Murdoch Children's Medical Research Institute.

**Rap-CV:** Phase I study of Vinorelbine, Cyclophosphamide and Rapamycin for Recurrent Malignancies in Children. Lead site: The Children's Hospital at Westmead

**ZAP:** Bisphosphonate Treatment in Childhood Femoral Head Avascular Necrosis due to Perthes Disease. Lead site: The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

**This month we welcome:**

**PAEDS :** Surveillance for 6 different infectious diseases, vaccine preventable diseases or conditions associated with adverse events following immunisation. Lead site: The Children's Hospital at Westmead. At the time of newsletter release, the final stages of CRF testing are underway and live data entry will commence shortly.

Institution	Department	Investigator	Study
The Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane	Respiratory	Claire Wainwright	COMBAT CF
The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne	Respiratory	Phil Robinson	COMBAT CF
The Mater Hospital, Brisbane	Respiratory	Carolyn Dakin	COMBAT CF
Sydney Childrens Hospital	Respiratory	Adam Jaffe	COMBAT CF
The Children's Hospital at Westmead	Respiratory	Peter Cooper	COMBAT CF
Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne	Respiratory	David Armstrong	COMBAT CF
Women and Children's Hospital, Adelaide	Respiratory	Andrew Tai	COMBAT CF
Christchurch Hospital, New Zealand	Respiratory	Philip Pattemore	COMBAT CF
Starship Children's Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand	Respiratory	Catherine Byrnes	COMBAT CF
Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth	Respiratory	Barry Clements	COMBATCF
Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Melbourne	Endocrinology	Margaret Zacharin	DMD
The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney	Endocrinology	Craig Munns	DMD
Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney	Endocrinology	Helen Woodhead	DMD
Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth	Endocrinology	Aris Siafarikas	DMD
The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney	Oncology	Geoff McCowage	Rap-CV
Women and Children's Hospital, Adelaide	Oncology	Heather Tapp	Rap-CV
The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne	Oncology	Francoise Mechinaud	Rap-CV
Sydney Childrens Hospital	Oncology	David Ziegler	Rap-CV
Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth	Oncology	Catherine Cole	Rap-CV
John Hunter Childrens Hospital	Oncology	Frank Alvaro	Rap-CV
Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne	Oncology	Peter Downie	Rap-CV
The Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane	Oncology	Wayne Nicholls	Rap-CV
Starship Children's Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand	Oncology	Stephen Laughton	Rap-CV
The Children's Hospital at Westmead	Endocrinology	Chris Cowell	ZAP
The Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane	Orthopedic	Geoff Donald	ZAP
Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth	Endocrinology	Aris Siafarikas	ZAP
The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne	Endocrinology	Margaret Zacharin	ZAP
Women and Children's Hospital, Adelaide	Orthopedic	Bruce Foster	ZAP

**WEBSPIRIT FAQ:**

**Q:** How are project eCRFs set up in WebSpirit and is this easy to do?

**A:** It is not difficult to create data entry screens that reflect your paper CRFs. You will be given training to allow you to create your own data entry screens by adding the required fields and setting their properties (e.g. date, character, numeric, mandatory or optional). Alternatively you can take and modify pre-existing screens from the WebSpirit library. Logic checks can then be applied to the data entry fields to limit entry errors. The PTNA Database Manager always supports you through this process.



The PTNA team wishes you a safe and happy summer break and we look forward to working with you again in 2014.

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