

## **Network News**

### **PTNA Principal Investigator Database**

To aid future collaborations within the network it would be useful to be able to build and maintain a National database of paediatric researchers. PTNA could then use this database to contact experienced Principal Investigator's (PI's) regarding support and advice for trials and to establish a mentoring system for early career researchers. PTNA is working on developing this further by adding another layer of peer review to ensure research questions are of the highest quality for paediatric trials in Australia. If you are interested in adding your contact details to our growing list please contact PTNA's Project Officer via [info@ptna.com.au](mailto:info@ptna.com.au)

### **Out and about:**

- Our Database Manager, Michael Emamooden is planning on visiting The Women's and Children's Hospital in North Adelaide in 2015 to introduce them to the PTNA and WebSpirit. If you are interested in meeting with PTNA to see a live WebSpirit demonstration please contact us to arrange a site visit.
- The Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in Brisbane's opening day is on Saturday 29 November, which brings together the Royal Children's Hospital and Mater Children's Hospital in Queensland.

### **PTNA submissions:**

- PTNA participated in the National Health & Medical Research Council Public Consultation process with a Draft Statement on Consumer Involvement in Health and Medical Research. This is now being submitted by the Australian Clinical Trials Alliance (ACTA) on behalf of Australian Clinical Trials Networks.
- PTNA contributed to the Therapeutic Innovation Australia research infrastructure survey. This supports a wider evaluation of research infrastructure investments undertaken by the Department of Education as part of the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) Evaluation.

## **Conferences**

### **ARCS Australia Events**

Clinical Research and Leadership Conference and 2014 Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 13 November at the Epping Club. The ARCS Scientific Congress is calling for session proposals and program suggestions for the ASC to be held at Royal Randwick, Sydney in May 2015. [www.arcs.com.au](http://www.arcs.com.au)

### **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Paediatric Clinical Trials Conference 2015:**

This event on the 25 - 26 March 2015 in London, UK will look at the paediatric therapeutic developments, directives and procedures which have been put in place to protect children taking part in clinical trials.

### **International Clinical Trials Symposium 2015:**

Event scheduled 7-10 October 2015, Sydney Australia, supported by NHMRC with more details coming soon.

### **Australian Clinical Trial Alliance**

ACTA Report on the 2014 National Summit of Investigator-Initiated Clinical Trials Networks now available [here](#)

### **NHMRC Grant Funding Announcements in October 2014:**

Congratulations to all our successful researchers who received funding for a Project Grant, Early Career Fellowship, Career Development Fellowship, TRIP Fellowship, Centres for Research Excellence or Partnership Project for 2015. If you need assistance with the management of your data please contact our Database Manager to obtain a quote to use WebSpirit for your study via [webspirit@ptna.com.au](mailto:webspirit@ptna.com.au)

## Research Information

### Medicines Australia

Government's Industry Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda and the announcement of five industry growth centres, one being medical technologies and pharmaceuticals. Read about Medicines Australia, Chairman Dr Martin Cross's comment on this announcement. <http://medicinesaustralia.com.au/>

### Therapeutic Goods Administration:

Expert review of medicines and medical devices regulation currently being conducted which will examine specific aspects of the regulatory framework for medicines and medical devices administered by the TGA. <http://www.tga.gov.au/media-release/expert-review-medicines-and-medical-devices-regulation>

### Boosting the commercial returns from research - Education Department:

As part of its Industry Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda, The Australian Government is calling for submissions on the policy and program to ensure Australian research supports the translation of research into commercial outcomes. <https://submissions.education.gov.au/Forms/higher-education-research/pages/form>

### WebSpirit users:

Congratulations to The Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide, who recently joined the PTNA membership!

### PTNA welcomes the OM Child Study to WebSpirit which recently went live

- This phase 3, multi-centre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled study testing the efficacy of winter only treatment with OM-85 for the reduction of lower respiratory events in atopic children with asthma aged 6 to 12 years. This study is being run by QCMRI with sites at Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane and Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne.

In October, **eCRF development work commenced for the TERIFIC study:** *Exploring the epidemiology and risk factors for invasive fungal infections in immunocompromised children.*

This study is being run by the Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane, sites include RCHB, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, Monash Medical Centre Melbourne, Sydney Children's Hospital, Children's Hospital Westmead and Women's and Children's Hospital Adelaide.

### WebSpirit FAQ:

**Q:** *I am involved with a project that is not a clinical trial. Is WebSpirit still a possible data management solution I might consider?*

**A:** The PTNA database manager welcomes discussion for all research projects. Whilst WebSpirit has been mainly developed for use in a clinical trial situation, it is being used in other projects such as observational studies and Biobank management.

**If you have any queries relating to the use of the WebSpirit Database please email [webspirit@ptna.com.au](mailto:webspirit@ptna.com.au) or call Michael Emamooden on 02 9845 1329**

# NCRIS

National Research  
Infrastructure for Australia

An Australian Government Initiative



## Christmas closure

The PTNA office will be closed:  
**Wednesday 24 December 2014 - Friday 2 January 2015**

*The PTNA team wishes you a safe and relaxing summer holiday and we look forward to working with you again in the New Year!*

**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)**

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