



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Total Joint Replacement (OPUS)

NHMRC Centre for
Research Excellence

Newsletter Issue 1

Welcome to the new Centre for Research Excellence in Total Joint Replacement – OPUS.

The Centre for Research Excellence for OPTimising oUtcomes, equity, cost effectiveness and patient Selection (OPUS) in Total Joint Replacement will transform the research and practice landscape of joint replacement surgery, and promote critically needed stewardship to optimise management for better outcomes and reduced costs for this high volume and expensive procedure.

OPUS draws together Australian and international experts in clinical care, health economics, outcomes modelling, and implementation research to address unprecedented demand for the procedure (100,000/yr and rising), burgeoning costs (\$4.5 billion/yr) and unresolved dissatisfaction (up to 1 in 3 patients).

Linked closely with the patient journey are 4 main streams of research, plus a 5th overarching transfer theme covering:

1. Prognostic factors and outcomes modelling;
2. Shared decision making
3. Non-surgical therapies
4. Hospital services coordinated care, minimising waste, complications, and uncontrolled rises in costs.
5. Promotion of effective transfer of research outcomes into health policy and/or practice

Please keep in touch with us while our research builds towards universal improvements in this critical system.

OPUS Launch Day

Thanks to all who were present for our launch on the 1st of December 2016. Exciting times ahead!



Opening remarks regarding the future of Total Joint Replacement presented by the Head of Melbourne Medical School Professor Geoff McColl.



Lead Chief Investigator and Surgeon Professor Peter Choong laying out the future landscape for what this NHMRC funded project promises to deliver.



Key local investigators linked closely to the project and overall success of this program. Left to right: Jane Gunn, Nicolas Graves, Linda Martin, Peter Choong, Darshini Ayton, Philip Clarke, Michelle Dowsey, Ian Incoll, Stephen Duckett, Bronwyn Pike.

Current and Future Prospects

University of Melbourne Awarded CRE PhD Scholarships

There are currently two university-funded stipends available for prospective PhD students interested in this field of study. If any aspect of this project of suits you and you are an Australian or New Zealand citizen or permanent resident, call the Centre Manager to find out more details regarding eligibility and available projects.

Move offers scholarship for 2018 onward

MOVE muscle, bone and joint health the new voice of Arthritis Victoria is once again offering PhD Scholarships for applicants who intend to pursue research in musculoskeletal health. The objectives of the scheme are:

1. to support researchers in producing high quality evidence to help individuals with or at risk of developing a MSK condition(s) and
2. to translate already existing or new evidence in MSK research into practise

6th Annual Surgical Forum

To be held on the 24th – 26th July 2017 in the Medical Education Centre and Aikenhead Conference Centre, St Vincent's Hospital, the theme of the 2017 Forum will be "Quality, Audit & Outcomes". There will be presentations from invited speakers, various surgical units and a workshop held on Tuesday afternoon, all very well received in previous years.

The Vellar Foundation Lecture, along with the Hugh Devine Guest Oration and Clarebrough Guest Oration are featured, along with the Peter Ryan Prize for the best presentation from junior medical staff.

The Forum Dinner will be held on Monday, 24th July 2017 at the Woodward Centre, University of Melbourne. All are most welcome to attend.

PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRATION CLOSES 17TH JULY 2017

Registration: www.trybooking.com/274245
Open Monday, 10th April 2017).

Further information, please contact:
Ms Toni Ardino at: surgeryoffice@unimelb.edu.au

Your feedback on any aspect of our project is always welcome.

While we are getting out social media streams set up, please contact our Centre Manager.

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Department of Surgery, Melbourne Medical School, St. Vincent's Hospital



Our links are far reaching. Find out more about our links in Ohio, USA.

Who: Michael Kattan, Ph.D.
Cleveland, Ohio USA, Eastern US time zone (EST).

Role: Dr. Keyhan and Dr. Jafar Mobasseri
Endowed Chair for Innovations in Cancer
Research and Chairman, Department of
Quantitative Health Sciences in the Lerner
Research Institute.

OPUS connection: Statistical consultant and
manuscript coauthor.

Work: Involves prediction modeling for the past
20 years. Worked at Baylor College of Medicine
in Houston, Texas, Memorial Sloan-Kettering
Cancer Center in New York, and now Cleveland
Clinic.

Relevant career interest: Building and
evaluation of statistical prediction models.

Awards: Recently received the Cleveland Clinic
Sones Innovation Award for work on prediction
models. Also received awards from the Society
for Medical Decision Making. All listed here:
<http://www.lerner.ccf.org/qhs/kattan/>

Hobbies: The first is road cycling. I have 5 bikes
(size 58): 2 Canyons, the Cannondale Black
Inc, and a Pinarello Dogma 65.1 Think 2. All are
equipped with Di2 and Zipp wheelsets. The
second hobby is hard rock music: Tool, Chevelle,
A Perfect Circle and Black Sabbath are great.
Silverchair is also not bad. I'm not a huge AC/
DC fan but I just saw them about 4 months ago
with Axel, and that was the greatest concert
performance I have ever seen. Angus was
simply incredible.

Other skills: Exceptional beer drinking ability.
I also enjoy travelling, visiting Melbourne twice,
around 2010 and 2011.

Meet our Highly Experienced Team!

Chief Investigators

Professor Peter Choong
Professor Philip Clarke
Professor Tony Scott
Professor Jane Gunn
Associate. Professor Michelle Dowsey
Dr Tim Spelman
Professor Peter O'Sullivan
Associate Professor Anne Smith
Professor Nicholas Taylor
Dr Trisha Peel

Melbourne University
Melbourne University
Melbourne University
Melbourne University
Melbourne University
Melbourne University
Curtin University
Curtin University
La Trobe University
Monash University

Associate Investigators

Associate Professor Michael Barrington
Dr Darshini Ayton
Professor Nicholas Graves
Dr Maria Inacio
Dr Ian Incoll
Professor Michael Kattan
Associate Professor Peter Kent
Emeritus Professor Stephan Lohmander
Dr Kieran O'Sullivan
Professor Jasvinder Singh

Melbourne University
Monash University
Queensland Uni Tech
University of SA
Australian Orthopedic Assoc
Cleveland Clinic
Curtain University
Lund University
Aspectar Hospital
University of Alabama

Advisory Committee

Ms Bronwyn Pike
Professor Stephen Duckett
Associate Professor Patricia O'Rourke
Mr Ian Incoll
Associate Professor Andrew Briggs
Dr Linda Swan
Professor Richard de Steiger
Ms Linda Martin

Western Health
Grattan Institute
St Vincent's Health Aus
Australian Orthopedic Assoc
Curtin University
Medibank
Epworth Hospital
Arthritis Victoria

For more information, click the name hyperlinks on our website!

medicine.unimelb.edu.au/research-groups/surgery-research/opus-cre-in-total-joint-replacement/chief-investigators



Who: Lyndon Hawke, La Trobe University & Eastern Health. Senior Physiotherapist, Angliss Community Rehabilitation Centre, Upper Ferntree Gully.

Training: PhD Candidate, Bachelor Physiotherapy (La Trobe), Master Clinical Rehabilitation (Neurological Physiotherapy) (Flinders)

OPUS connection: Nicolas Taylor, Improving physical activity levels post hip and knee joint replacement.

Work: 20 years at Angliss Hospital. Services busy outpatient rehabilitation centre that provides inter-disciplinary therapy to a wide range of patients in Melbourne's outer east. Lyndon manages the provision of physiotherapy intervention for the Adult Rehabilitation, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Falls & Balance Clinic & Focal Spasticity Management Clinic (BoTN Clinic) services at the Angliss CRC.

Research Projects: evaluation of the effective-ness of the Angliss CRC's Orthopaedic Exercise Group in returning post hip and knee replacement patients to physical function.

Career interest: Passion for providing patient-focussed, evidence-based physiotherapy intervention for the outpatients at the Angliss CRC. Developing effective leadership and management strategies for Allied Health professionals within the healthcare landscape.

Hobbies: Enjoys his attempts to maintain some resemblance of fitness. Keen tennis player and an avid fan of Roger Federer.

Enjoys travelling and has trekked and mountaineered in Tasmania, Canada, Morocco, the Peruvian Andes and the Himalayas.

This research is being undertaken with the following major partners:



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Curtin University



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