**ALSWH Technical Report #46: Appendices**

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# Appendix A: Collaborative Research Projects

## Current projects

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| Project ID: A038D | **Relationship between diet quality and health service utilisation: an updated analysis** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Clare Collins - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Amanda Patterson - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Tracy Burrows - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Rebecca Haslam - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Jennifer Baldwin - The University of Sydney * Dr Lee Ashton - Priority Research Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition, The University of Newcastle * Dr Erin Clarke - The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | This project is about evaluating whether healthy eating is associated with reduced health care costs and all-cause and cardiovascular mortality. So far, we have shown consuming a greater variety of vegetables to be associated with lower 10-year and 15-year cumulative Medicare Charges and Claims. We have also previously shown that women whose diet quality worsened over 12 years had higher healthcare costs (Medicare charges) compared with those whose diet quality improved or remained the same. We wish to investigate whether these relationships are strengthening over a greater time period, or not. We also wish to investigate whether healthy eating is associated with reduced all-cause and cardiovascular mortality. This research may help to identify appropriate dietary targets associated with reduced health care costs and mortality. Further evaluations in other studies are needed so that modelling of potential future cost savings can be conducted. The results will inform a policy brief related to diet quality and healthcare costs over time. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Diet quality and 21-year cumulative healthcare claims and charges associations among Australian women (poster presentation).  Baldwin J, Clarke E & Collins C. International Congress on Obesity (ICO) 2022, 18-22 October 2022. |

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| Project ID: A058A | **Use of ALSWH data to develop and illustrate methodology for analyzing longitudinal data** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Michael Waller - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Colleen Loos- Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Paul McElwee - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Vaishnavi Calisa - The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project uses ALSWH data to develop and illustrate methodological issues. The data is used for methodology research, testing data access platforms and teaching. It is not anticipated that the data would be used to investigate substantive issues. If any of the work were to develop into manuscripts for submission to journals it would be submitted to the Data Access Committee in the usual manner as an amendment or new EoI.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A237B | **The long-term implications of intimate partner violence for health and social support among mid-older Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) have a significant impact on women’s physical, mental and emotional health. These poorer health outcomes have been shown to continue long after the violence has ceased. Therefore, the cessation of violence alone may not rectify the health impact of experiences of violence. It is unknown whether time alone can heal the physical, psychological and emotional impact of IPV, or if increased social support or other demographic factors may assist in reducing poor health outcomes after IPV. This project will examine health outcomes of the 1946-51 and 1973-78 cohorts of women after the cessation of IPV, factors associated with these outcomes over time and whether social support plays a significant role in reducing the ongoing adverse health outcomes after the cessation of IPV.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A299 | **Coping with motherhood and work: Predicting positive wellbeing among young Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Melissa Johnstone - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Christina Lee - School of Psychology, University of Queensland * A/Prof Belinda Hewitt - School of Social and Political Sciences, The University of Melbourne |
| Liaison person: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Successfully managing work and family responsibilities is a major issue for most Australians (Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission, HREOC, 2005; Productivity Commission, 2008) that impacts strongly on employed women (Craig, 2007a, 2007b) who still undertake the bulk of the responsibility for housework and caring for children (Baxter, 2005; Baxter, Hewitt, & Haynes, 2008).  This “double” or “second” shift has potential implications for the health of many Australian women. As one way to balance paid work and family, many Australian women shift to part-time hours or casual employment after having children (Abhayaratna, Andrews, Nuch, & Podbury, 2008; Whitehouse, Baird, Diamond, & Hosking, 2006). However, there is evidence to suggest that these jobs are often not very good positions (Abhayaratna et al., 2008; Connolly & Gregory, 2007, 2008; HREOC, 2008), and this may pose a concern to younger generations of women who are more invested in careers and education than were earlier generations of women.  How do younger generations of Australian women “who are encouraged to pursue education and aspire to careers” then combine work and family? If they continue in full-time employment; shift to part-time employment or move out of the workforce altogether after having children - is that what they want? Or have they compromised on something to which they feel they are entitled? And how does their combination of work and family, and the quality of these roles, impact upon their health and wellbeing? This project addresses these questions. |
| Publications: | Life transitions and women’s desired number of children: The impact of motherhood, relationships and employment. Johnstone M, Lucke J & Hewitt B. Community, Work and Family, 2020.  The emotional impact of unfulfilled career aspirations for stay-at-home mothers in Australia. Johnstone M & Lucke J. Journal of Family Issues, 2021, 43(9); 2480-2504. |

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| Project ID: A360A | **Predictors of mental health services utilisation and costs for Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Catherine D Este - National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH), The Australian National University * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The aim of this research is to investigate the impact and utilisation of the “Better Access Scheme” on health services among Australian women with mental health conditions. The research will provide in-depth analysis on the differing social, economic and health characteristics for women with mental health conditions who do and do not use the “Better Access Scheme” and identify inequalities and possible inequities on health service use/costs and morbidity. |
| Publications: | Transitions in health service use among women with poor mental health: A 7-year follow-up. Dolja-Gore X, Loxton D, D'Este C & Byles JE. Family Medicine and Community Health, 2022, 10(2); e001481.  Mental health service use: Is there a difference between rural and non-rural women in service uptake? Dolja-Gore X, Loxton D, D'Este C & Byles J. The Australian Journal of Rural Health, 2014, 22(3); 92-100. |
| Conference / Presentations: | How effective are Australian mental health counselling for women with poor mental health? Dolja-Gore X. International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research, Montreal, Canada, 31 May - 4 June 2014. Are younger Australian women with poor mental health receiving counselling services and how effective are they? Dolja-Gore X, Loxton D, D’Este C & Byles J. Population Health Congress 2015, Hobart, Tas, 6 - 9 September 2015.  How effective are Australian mental health counselling services for women with poor mental health? Dolja-Gore X, Loxton D, D'Este C & Byles J. National Centre for Longitudinal Data: Longitudinal Data Conference 2016, Canberra, ACT, 25 - 27 October 2016. |

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| Project ID: A384A | **Salutogenesis and changes in self-rated health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Meredith Tavener - School of Medicine and Public Health, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Ryan Tuckerman - Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Alexandra Denham - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | This qualitative research seeks to identify and elucidate different patterns and changes in health among women born between 1921-1926 who have completed Survey 6 and beyond into the 6-monthly surveys, as seen from the women’s perspective. Analysis will be according to (a) Women classified into four contrasting groups according to their self-rated health, and (b) Women classified into groups according to subjective, functional and disease measures.  In both cases, random samples of women who provided free text comments on the back pages of their surveys will be selected from each group and these comments will be analysed for content and against theories of salutogenesis and ageing in older women. The theory is that women who have a positive outlook, who have a sense that life has meaning and order, as well as good personal skills and social resources will experience ageing more positively, and hence will have better physical and mental health outcomes. |
| Conference / Presentations: | ACH Group Sir Keith Wilson Oration. Inspired by ageing: Observations from 12,432 women and one researcher. Byles J. SA Gerontology Conference 2012.The Ageing Odyssey. It’s All About the Journey, Adelaide, South Australia 14 September 2012.  Applying the salutogenic model for better health outcomes in older Australian women. Tavener M. 47th Australian Association of Gerontology National Conference ‘50 not out. Aiming for a century’, Adelaide, SA, 26 - 28 November 2014.  Plenary: Exploring salutary factors influencing womens health. Tavener M. Optimising health: Salutogenic approaches to health practice, policy, research and education. University of Canberra. Canberra, ACT, 26 - 27 October 2016. |

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| Project ID: A397 | **Differential contribution of fruit and vegetable intake to general health in the ALSWH** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Seema Mihrshahi - Department of Health Sciences, Macquarie University |
| Other collaborators: | * Putu Novi Arfirsta Dharmayani - Macquarie University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | It is well known that increased consumption of sugar is one of the major contributing factors for the obesity epidemic. Recent research has controversially suggested that high fructose consumption may lead to increased lipogenesis and adiposity.  Fruit and vegetable intakes are rarely evaluated separately when measuring associations with health status and the purpose of this analysis is to evaluate the differential effects of fruit and vegetables (separately) in relation to body weight and health status. |
| Publications: | Fruit and vegetable consumption and prevalence and incidence of depressive symptoms in mid-age women: results from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Mihrshahi S, Dobson A & Mishra G. European Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 2015, 69(5); 585-591.  Fruit and vegetable consumption and depression symptoms in young women: results from 1973 to 1978 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Dharmayani PNA, Mishra GD & Mihrshahi S. European Journal of Nutrition, 2022, 61(8); 4167-4178. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Fruit consumption is associated with a lower risk of depression in mid age women. Mihrshahi S. 20th International Congress of Nutrition, Granada, Spain, 15 - 20 September 2013.  Are depressive symptoms associated with low fruit and vegetable intake in Australian women? Mihrshahi S. AEA Annual Scientific Meeting 2013: Life Course Approach to Health and Wellbeing, Brisbane, Qld, 20 - 22 October 2013.  Association between fruit and vegetable intake and depressive symptoms over 15 years in young women. Dharmayani PNA World Congress of Epidemiology, Dharmayani PNA 3 - 6 September 2021. |

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| Project ID: A425A | **Longitudinal changes in maternal diet** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Ellie D’Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Clare Collins - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Dr Christopher Oldmeadow - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, Hunter Medical Research Institute |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The proposed project seeks to evaluate dietary changes that occur longitudinally in women. The project will use self-reported dietary data from ALSWH’s young cohort (1973-78), over two mailed surveys in 2003 and 2009. Women will be classified as preconception, pregnant or not pregnant at each time point and their diets compared to observe the changes that occur as a woman ages or becomes pregnant. Overall, this project will examine the trends in dietary intake during childbearing years. |
| Conference / Presentations: | The longitudinal association between diet and pregnancy status among Australian women of reproductive age. Gresham E. 10th Asia Pacific Conference on Clinical Nutrition, Adelaide, SA, 26-29 November 2017. |

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| Project ID: A429 | **Disordered eating in adolescence and young adulthood and its consequences for BMI trajectory in midlife** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Ilona Koupil - Stockholm University & Karolinska Institute * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Disordered eating (binge eating) and dieting is common among young women. It has been shown that clinically diagnosed eating disorders often have very serious health complications, but it is not known what the long-term consequences of the more prevalent, milder forms of disordered eating are. We will study how disordered eating in childhood, adolescence and young adult age is related to women’s later body size, underweight, overweight, obesity and body satisfaction.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A468 | **Population-level relevance of risk factors for cancer** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Maarit Laaksonen - School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of New South Wales |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Graham Giles - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Prof Claire Vajdic - Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales * Prof Dianna Magliano - Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute * Prof Jonathan Shaw - Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute * Prof Paul Mitchell - Discipline of Clinical Ophthalmology and Eye Health, University of Sydney * Prof Karen Canfell - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * A/Prof Robert MacInnis - Cancer Council Victoria * Prof Emily Banks - Australian National University * Prof Robert Cumming - University of Sydney * Dr Barbara-Ann Adelstein - University of New South Wales * Dr Maria Arriaga - Centre for Big Data Research in Health, University of New South Wales * A/Prof Vasant Hirani - Concordia Health and Ageing in Men Project (CHAMP), The University of Sydney * Peter Hull - Centre for Big Data Research in Health, University of New South Wales * Dr Tiffany Gill - Adelaide Medical School, The University of Adelaide |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Cancer prevention guidelines should be informed by population-level relevance of the risk factors. Measures such as the Population Attributable Fraction (PAF), which integrate both the strength of association and the prevalence of the risk factors in the population, can estimate that relevance. In this study, the population-level relevance of lifestyle-related risk factors for cancer in Australia will be studied for the first time by applying our recently published PAF measure and program to data from established large-scale Australian cohort studies, including ALSWH, linked to national cancer and death registries (relative risk estimates) and nationally representative health survey (exposure prevalence estimates). A pooled cohort study based on the individual cohorts will also be conducted, by applying our recently demonstrated meta-analysis techniques for PAF, to further enhance the precision of the estimates and to allow the analysis of less common cancers. Knowledge on national cancer burden is essential for targeting cancer interventions. |
| Publications: | Cohort Profile: The burden of cancer attributable to modifiable risk factors - the Australian Cancer-PAF Cohort Consortium. Arriaga ME, Vajdic CM, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Hull P, Magliano DJ, Banks E, Giles GG, Cumming RG, Byles JE, Taylor AW, Shaw JE, Price K, Hirani V, Mitchell P, Adelstein B-A & Laaksonen MA. BMJ Open, 2017, 7(6); e016178.  The future burden of lung cancer attributable to current modifiable behaviours: A pooled study of seven Australian cohorts. Laaksonen MA, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Arriaga ME, Banks E, Magliano DJ, Giles GG Cumming RG, Byles JE, Mitchell P, Gill TK, Hirani V, McCullough S, Shaw JE, Taylor AW, Adelstein B-A & Vajdic CM. International Journal of Epidemiology, 2018, 47(6); 1772-1783.  The future colorectal cancer burden attributable to modifiable behaviors: a pooled cohort study. Vajdic CM, MacInnis R, Canfell K, Hull P, Arriaga ME, Hirani V, Cumming RG, Mitchell P, Byles JE, Giles GG, Banks E, Taylor AW, Shaw JE, Magliano DJ, Marker J, Adelstein B-A, Gill TK & Laaksonen MA. JNCI Cancer Spectrum, 2018, 2(3).  The burden of pancreatic cancer in Australia attributable to smoking. Arriaga M, Vajdic CM, MacInnis RJ, Canfell K, Magliano DJ, Shaw JE, Byles JE, Giles FF, Taylor AW, Gill TK, Hirani, Cumming RG, Mitchell P, Banks E, Marker J, Adelstein BA & Laaksonen M. Medical Journal of Australia, 2019, 210(5); 213-220.  The preventable burden of breast cancers for premenopausal and postmenopausal women in Australia: a pooled study. Arriaga ME, Vajdic CM, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Banks E, Byles JE, Magliano DJ, Taylor AW, Mitchell P, Giles GG, Shaw JE, Gill TK, Klaes E, Velentzis LS, Cumming RG, Hirani V, Laaksonen MA. International Journal of Cancer, 2019, 145(9); 2383-2394.  The preventable burden of endometrial and ovarian cancers in Australia: A pooled cohort study. Laaksonen MA, Arriaga ME, Canfell K, MacInnis RJ, Byles JE, Banks E, Shaw JE, Mitchell P, Giles GG, Magliano DJ, Gill TK, Klaes E, Velentzis LS, Hirani V, Cumming RG & Vajdic CM. Gynecological Oncology, 2019, 153(3); 580-588.  The future burden of kidney and bladder cancers preventable by behaviour modification in Australia: A pooled cohort study. Laaksonen MA, MacInnis R, Canfell K, Giles GG, Hull P, Shaw JE, Cumming RG, Gill TK, Banks E, Mitchell P, Byles JE, Magliano DJ, Hirani V, Connah D & Vajdic CM. International Journal of Cancer, 2020, 146(3); 874-883.  The future burden of head and neck cancers attributable to modifiable behaviours in Australia: a pooled cohort study. Laaksonen MA, Canfell K, MacInnis RJ, Banks E, Byles JE, Giles GG, Magliano DJ, Shaw JE, Hirani V, Gill TK, Mitchell P, Cumming RG, Salagame U, Vajdic CM. Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention, 2021, 30(8); 1566-1574.  Thyroid cancers potentially preventable by reducing overweight and obesity in Australia: A pooled cohort study. Laaksonen MA, MacInnis RJ, Canfell K, Shaw JE, Magliano DJ, Banks E, Giles GG, Byles JE, Gill TK, Mitchell P, Hirani V, Cumming RG & Vajdic CM. International Journal of Cancer, 2022, 150(8); 1281-1290.  The future burden of oesophageal and stomach cancers attributable to modifiable behaviours in Australia: a pooled cohort study. Laaksonen MA, Li S, Canfell K, MacInnis RJ, Giles GG, Banks E, Byles JE, Magliano DJ, Shaw JE, Gill TK, Hirani V, Cumming RG, Mitchell P, Bonello M & Vajdic CM. British Journal of Cancer, 2022. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Population-level Relevance Of Risk Factors For Cancer In The Presence Of Competing Risk Of Death. Laaksonen M. Australian Statistical Conference 2014 Sydney, NSW, 7 - 10 July 2014.  Population-level relevance of risk factors for cancer: pooled study of seven Australian cohorts. Laaksonen M. World Cancer Congress, Melbourne, Victoria, 3 - 6 December 2014.  Burden of lung cancer attributable to lifestyle risk factors: pooled study of seven Australian cohorts. Laaksonen M et al. Sydney Cancer Conference 2016, Sydney, NSW, 22-23 September 2016.  Population-level relevance of lifestyle-related risk factors for pancreatic cancer. Arriaga M et al. Sydney Cancer Conference 2016, Sydney, NSW, 22-23 September 2016.  Burden of lung cancer attributable to modifiable lifestyle-related risk factors. Laaksonen MA, et al. Annual 45 and Up Study Collaborators’ Meeting, Sydney, NSW, 6 September 2016.  Burden of colorectal cancer in Australia attributable to lifestyle-related risk factors. Laaksonen MA, et al. Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) 43th Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast, Qld, 15 - 17 November 2016.  Burden of lung cancer in Australia avoidable by modifications to lifestyle-related risk factors. Laaksonen M, Arriaga M, Hull P, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, Cumming R et al. American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA, 1-5 April 2017.  Burden of colorectal cancer attributable to lifestyle-related risk factors: a pooled study of seven Australian cohorts. Vajdic CM, Arriaga M, Hull P, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, Cumming R et al. American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA, 1-5 April 2017.  Population-level relevance of lifestyle-related risk factors for pancreatic cancer in Australia. Arriaga M, Vajdic CM, Hull P, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, Cumming R et al. American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA, 1-5 April 2017.  Premenopausal and postmenopausal breast cancer burden attributable to health behaviours and hormonal factors. Arriaga M, Vajdic CM, Hull P, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, Cumming R,et al. Annual Scientific Meeting of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA), Sydney, NSW, 13-15 November 2017.  A large linked study to evaluate the burden of cancer in Australia attributable to current modifiable behaviours. Laaksonen MA, Arriaga ME, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Hull P, Banks E, Giles G, et al. International Population Data Linkage Conference, Banff, Alberta, Canada, 12-14 September 2018.  Future burden of cancer attributable to current modifiable behaviours: A pooled study of seven Australian cohorts. Laaksonen MA, Arriaga ME, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Hull P, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, et al. World Cancer Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1-4 October 2018.  Future burden of cancer attributable to current modifiable behaviour. Laaksonen MA, Arriaga ME, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Hull P, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, et al. Sydney Cancer Conference, Sydney, NSW, 11-12 October 2018.  The preventable future burden of cancer in Australia. Laaksonen MA, Canfell K, MacInnis R, Arriaga ME, Hull P, Banks E, Giles G, Mitchell P, Cumming R, Byles J, Magliano DJ, Shaw J, Taylor A, Gill TK, Hirani V, Marker J, McCullough S, Klaes E, Connah D, World Congress of Epidemiology, 2021. Virtual, 3-6 September 2021. |

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| Project ID: A525 | **Causal inference of smoking, nutrition, alcohol and physical activity on birth weight: A sibling analysis** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Jennifer Powers - Research Centre for Generational Health and Ageing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Amy Anderson - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Ellie D Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health * A/Prof Liz Holliday - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Residual confounding is a major problem in observational studies, meaning that results must be interpreted with caution. Data from siblings provides the opportunity to better control for family characteristics, thereby reducing residual confounding and increasing causal inference. Sibling analysis allows for a separation of within-family effects from between-family effects and simultaneous estimation of both. We will apply sibling analysis to birth weight data from the state-based Perinatal Data Collections linked to the 1973-1978 ALSWH cohort. We intend to focus on the role of four key modifiable lifestyle factors: smoking; nutrition (diet and weight); alcohol; and physical activity, on birth weight.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A574A | **Finding a life without domestic violence: Analysis of free-text responses from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health surveys** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Lyn Francis - Western Sydney University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Virginia Stulz - School of Nursing and Midwifery, Western Sydney University * Muluken Dessalegn Muluneh - Western Sydney University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Qualitative thematic data analysis will comprise of free text responses to the open-ended question, “Have we missed anything?” included in the ALSWH surveys. Responses that indicate experiences of abuse in relationships and women’s decision making regarding staying or leaving abusive relationships will be examined. The researcher will identify if the issue of social support (formal and/or informal) is raised by participants in relation to abuse or violence and what helped or hindered disclosure of abuse and/or help seeking in the context of abuse and leaving or ending such relationships.  Quantitative data collected from the surveys will ensure diversity in the sample and consider whether women identified domestic violence within their relationships. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Finding a Life Without Domestic Violence: A Mixed Methods Study. Francis L & Stulz V. 4th Australian Nursing and Midwifery Conference, Newcastle, NSW, 2 - 3 May 2019.  Finding a Life Without Domestic Violence: Analysing Free Text Data from the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women’s Health (ALSWH). Francis L, Stulz V, (presenters) Dessalegn M, & Loxton D. Stop Domestic Violence Conference 2021, Gold Coast, QLD, 1-3 December 2021.  Finding a life free of domestic violence: Findings from free text comments over time in the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women’s Health (ALSWH). Francis L, (presenter) Stulz V, Dessalegn M, & Loxton D. Moving Forward in Unity: Nursing through the Covid-19 Year 2021, Virtual - Mae Fah Luang University Thailand, 2 December 2021.  Finding a life free of domestic violence: Findings from free text comments over time in the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women’s Health (ALSWH) . Francis L, Stulz V, (presenters) Dessalegn M & Loxton D. Women’s Health Matters Symposium, Virtual - Western Sydney University, 9 December 2021.  Finding a Life without domestic violence : analysing free text data from the ALSWH. Francis L & Stulz V. Stop Domestic Violence Conference 2022, Gold Coast, QLD, 30 November - 2 December 2022.  Finding a Life without domestic violence : analysing free text data from the ALSWH. Francis L & Stulz V. Mae Fah Luang University (MFIU), Moving Forward in Unity: Nursing through the COVID-19 Pandemic. Section of conference. Online, 22-23 November 2021. |

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| Project ID: A623 | **Thinking ahead: How healthy do baby boomer women think they will be?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Meredith Tavener - School of Medicine and Public Health, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Tazeen Majeed - School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle * Ryan Tuckerman - Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Hannah Twiddy - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | As Australia's life expectancy is lengthening, baby boomers might be wondering whether a longer life will be lived in better or worse health. In 2006, women from the 1946-51 cohort took part in a sub-study on retirement. As part of the sub-study they were also asked about their present health and what they expected of their health in 20 years. It will be 10 years in 2016 (i.e., halfway through their expectation), since the women were asked that question, and a good time to see whether they are 'on track' according to their own health expectations. |

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| Project ID: A638 | **Young Australian mothers’ perceptions of life and learning** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Christine Sefton - The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The project will explore individual perceptions, feelings and behaviour of young mothers.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A646 | **Longitudinal analyses of yoga use and health status among Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Romy Lauche - National Centre for Naturopathic Medicine, Southern Cross University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof David Sibbritt - Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney * Dr Holger Cramer - Department of Internal and Integrative Medicine, University of Duisburg-Essen |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project examines the prevalence of yoga use over time, continuity of yoga use and predictors for (dis-)continuation. This project also examines the longitudinal associations of yoga/meditation with health status or well-being among participants with diagnosed mental health or physical conditions such as anxiety, depression, hypertension, arthritis or back pain.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A647 | **The longitudinal impact of intimate partner violence on Australian women's mental health, employment, health service use and personal interactions** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Reinie Cordier - Social Work, Education and Community Wellbeing, Northumbria University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Yu-Wei Chen - Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Sydney * Prof Donna Chung - School of Occupational Therapy and Social Work, Curtin University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | This project aims to investigate the long-term impact of intimate partner violence on women in the following domains: 1. Women's mental health and wellbeing 2. Women's ability to work 3. Women's utilisation of health services 4. Women's personal/social interactions. The dependant variable that will be used for the study is the question about abuse that was asked in waves 2 and 3 in the young cohort and the partner abuse question (community composite abuse scale) waves 4-6 in the young cohort. We also aim to investigate the psychometric properties of the community composite abuse scale using Rasch analysis. |
| Conference / Presentations: | The influence of intimate partner violence on young women’s ability to work. Cordier R, Chen Y-W, Chung D & Loxton D. World Federation of Occupational Therapy Congress, Cape Town, South Africa, 21-25 May 2018. |

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| Project ID: A655 | **Association between insomnia and total energy intake and diet quality** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Amani Hamad Alhazmi - King Khalid University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Elizabeth Stojanovski - School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences, University of Newcastle * A/Prof Mark McEvoy - La Trobe Rural Health School, La Trobe University * Dr Jency Thomas - LaTrobe University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | In this project the quantitative survey data will be interrogated to examine whether women (1946-51 cohort) with insomnia symptoms had greater energy intake and/or a lower diet quality as assessed with the use of diet quality score.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A678 | **Retention of participants over 21 years for three age cohorts** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Anna Graves - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Amy Anderson - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Effective participant retention is a challenge for longitudinal cohort studies. Over the past 25 years ALSWH has retained participants in three cohorts who were aged 18-23, 45-50 and 70-75 when the study first collected data in 1996. Women leave the study for a variety of reasons and these differ by cohort. The aims of this project are to examine the predictors of attrition and retention across the original three ALSWH cohorts and to examine the effectiveness of various retention methods.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A690 | **The direct and indirect costs associated with endometriosis in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Grant Montgomery - Institute for Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Dr Dereje Gedle Gete - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Jason Abbott - University of New South Wales |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This study aims to match women’s self-reported doctor diagnosis of endometriosis with Commonwealth Medical Benefits Schedule (GP, Specialist visits) and state-based Admitted Patients Collections to provide evidence on the direct economic impacts of endometriosis in Australia from 1996 to 2023. It will also examine lost/reduced work productivity of women with endometriosis in terms of hours in paid work and unemployment (indirect economic impacts).  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A696A | **Unintended pregnancy and contraceptive use in women with chronic disease: providing an evidence-base for Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Bateson - Daffodil Centre * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Dr Zanna Franks - The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Aaron Sverdlov - University of Newcastle * A/Prof Vanessa Murphy - The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Unintended pregnancy remains high in developed countries despite access to high quality sexual and reproductive services. Some evidence exists that women with chronic diseases experience unintended pregnancy at significantly higher rates than women without chronic disease. For these women, unintended pregnancies are associated with serious adverse maternal and perinatal outcomes. Optimised preconception care and reproductive life planning is critical to the prevention of unintended pregnancies and reduction in pregnancy-related complications in women with chronic diseases. Little information exists in the Australian context. This project aims to fill this knowledge gap.  The research to date has found that while women with chronic disease use contraception at similar rates to other women, they often choose less effective methods, although this is dependent upon the specific condition of interest. Women with chronic disease should therefore be afforded the opportunity for comprehensive contraceptive counselling as part of routine chronic disease management and regular follow-up across the disease course to ensure they are aware of the risks of unintended pregnancy and are provided with the highest efficacy contraceptive options that are most appropriate to their specific circumstances. |
| Publications: | Patterns of contraceptive use among young Australian women with chronic disease: findings from a prospective cohort study. Harris ML, Egan N, Forder PM, Bateson D, Sverdlov AL, Murphy VE & Loxton D. Reproductive Health, 2022, 19(1); 111.  Patterns of contraceptive use through later reproductive years: A cohort study of Australian women with chronic disease. Harris ML, Egan N, Forder PM, Bateson D & Loxton DL. PLOS ONE, 2023, 18(5); e0268872.  Increased chronic disease prevalence among the younger generation: findings from a population-based data linkage study to inform chronic disease ascertainment among reproductive-aged Australian women. Harris Ml, Egan N, Forder PM & Loxton D. Plos One, 2021, 16(8); e0254668. |

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| Project ID: A705 | **Patterns of alcohol consumption over time and their relationship to mortality and breast cancer risk** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Yi Yang - The University of Melbourne |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Prof Dallas English - The University of Melbourne * Dr Brigid Lynch - Cancer Council Victoria * Dr Pierre-Antoine Dugue - Cancer Council Victoria * Dr Harindra Jayasekara - Cancer Council Victoria |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Alcohol consumption is an important modifable risk factor of mortality and breast cancer risk. How alcohol consumption over time affects mortality and risk of breast cancer remains unclear. Our aims are to study the risk of death and incidence of breast cancer in relation to changes in pattern of consumption over time. This will offer a better understanding of how different long-term drinking profiles from mid-life onwards are related to subsequent risk of mortality and breast cancer risk.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A709 | **Does diet quality predict Body Mass Index (BMI) and weight gain in women of reproductive age?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Ellie D Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Clare Collins - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Dr Christopher Oldmeadow - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, Hunter Medical Research Institute |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project seeks to evaluate dietary changes that occur longitudinally in women as a predictor of BMI and weight gain. The project will use self-reported dietary data from ALSWH’s young cohort (1973-78), over two mailed surveys in 2003 and 2009. Women will be classifed according to BMI (underweight, healthy, overweight, and obese) at each time point and their diets compared to observe the changes that occur overtime.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A718 | **How are different patterns of physical activity, sleep and diet related to health status and do these relationships differ by socio-demographics?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Mitch Duncan - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Liz Holliday - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, The University of Newcastle * Dr Stina Oftedal - Child Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Physical activity, sleep and dietary behaviours are related to various health outcomes including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and quality of life. Little is known however about the combined patterns of these behaviours, how the patterns differ between different population groups or influence risk of ill health. This study will identify the different patterns of these behaviours in middle aged women, examine how these behaviours change over time and how the patterns influence risk of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, poor quality of life and allcause mortality. The study will also examine if the relationship between behaviour patterns and health outcomes differ family structure (married, caring responsibilities) occupation (e.g., shift work, employment level, ASCO category), education, socio-economic status (e.g., income, financial stress), and residential location (e.g., metropolitan, regional, remote). Findings will help to better understand how these complex behaviours influence health and enable health promotion efforts to be directed to those in greatest need.  Our published research has observed that there may be a synergistic interaction between physical activity and sleep difficulties with the incidence of hypertension. Specifically, that relative to inactive women without any sleep difficulties, inactive women with any sleep difficulties have an increased risk of developing hypertension. Moreover, the combination of inactivity and sleep difficulties may have a stronger relationship with hypertension incidence than the simple sum of these individual risk factors. This has implications for preventive strategies to target both improved physical activity and reducing sleep difficulties. |
| Publications: | Joint association of physical activity and sleep difficulties with the incidence of hypertension in mid-age Australian women. Duncan MJ, Holliday EG, Oftedal S, Buman M & Brown WJ. Maturitas, 2021, 149; 1-7. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Improving the understanding of sleep, and physical activity as CVD risk factors. Duncan MJ. Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ) Annual Scientific Meeting 2019 Duncan MJ. 9 August 2019. |

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| Project ID: A722A | **Prevention and early intervention for maternal mental illness: a research program that will inform policy and clinical practice** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Nicole Reilly - University of Wollongong |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | In Australia, local, state and national initiatives for maternal mental health, such as the NSW Safe Start initiative and National Perinatal Depression Initiative, have focused on prevention and early intervention for nearly two decades. The aims of this research are to 1) examine changes in mental health service use and psychological wellbeing among women who gave birth in Australia over the previous 20 years, 2) evaluate the impact of key perinatal-specific mental health initiatives on these outcomes, and 3) examine adherence to best practice guidance for the prevention and management of maternal mental health, and to identify barriers and facilitators to adherence. |
| Publications: | Increases in use of Medicare Benefits Schedule mental health items among women who gave birth in New South Wales, 2009-2015. Reilly N, Egan N, Austin M-P, Forder PM & Loxton D. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 2022, 46(1); 75-80. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Increases in use of Medicare Benefits Schedule mental health items among women who gave birth in New South Wales, 2009-2015. Reilly N. 12th Health Services Research Conference, Sydney, NSW, 1 December 2022. |

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| Project ID: A724 | **Beyond successful ageing: Longevity and healthy ageing among Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Meredith Tavener - School of Medicine and Public Health, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Dr Paul Kowal - Study on global AGEing and adult health (SAGE), World Health Organization * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Prof Carol Jagger - Institute of Ageing and Health, Newcastle University * A/Prof Liz Holliday - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, The University of Newcastle * Dr John Beard - Department of Ageing and Life Course Health, World Health Organisation * Dr Md Mijanur Rahman - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * Emily Princehorn - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | We will examine changes within cohorts of Australian women born 1921?26 and 1946?51 to identify trajectories of Healthy Ageing as defined by WHO and compare these as to whether or not women can be considered to have achieved Successful Ageing using disease and disability-based models of ageing. We argue that Healthy Ageing allows for more diversity in ageing trajectories, with interaction between intrinsic capacities and external supports. |
| Publications: | Successful ageing from old to very old: a longitudinal study of 12,432 women from Australia. Byles JE, Rahman MM, Princehorn EM, Holliday EG, Leigh L, Loxton D, Beard J, Kowal P & Jagger C. Age and Ageing, 2019, 48(6); 803-810.  The impact of education and lifestyle factors on disability-free life expectancy from mid-life to older age: A multi-cohort study. Rahman M, Jagger C, Leigh L, Holliday E, Princehorn E, Loxton D, Kowal P, Beard J & Byles J. International Journal of Public Health, 2022, 67.  Predicting chronic disease, disability and mortality in a large cohort of older Australian women: A Markov multi-state modelling approach. Rahman M, Jagger C, Princehorn E, Holliday E, Leigh L, Loxton D, Beard J, Byles J & Kowal P. SSRN Electronic Journal, 2021.  Onset and progression of chronic disease and disability in a large cohort of older Australian women. Rahman M, Jagger C, Princehorn EM, Holliday EG, Leigh L, Loxton D, Beard J, Kowal P, & Byles JE. Maturitas, 2022, 158(1); 25-33. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Prospects for healthy ageing and longevity for future generations of Australian women. Byles J. 2018 International Centenarian Consortium (ICC) Meeting, Blue Mountains, NSW, 5 - 6 September 2018.  Successful ageing and longevity among Australian women. Byles J. 2nd International Living to 100 Conference, Darling Harbour, NSW, 7 - 8 September 2018.  Successful ageing from old to very old: findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Byles J, Rahman M, Princehorn E, Holliday E & Jagger C. IAGG-ER 9th European Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, Gothenburg, Sweden, 23 - 25 May 2019.  Successful ageing from old to very old: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Byles J. 52nd AAG Conference, Sydney, NSW, 5-8 November 2019.  Impact of life-style factors on health life expectancy from mid-to-older age: Evidence from Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Rahman M & Byles J 53rd AAG Conference, Virtual Conference, 18-20 November 2020. |

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| Project ID: A728 | **Understanding the relationships between weight gain, physical activity and indicators of women's reproductive health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Gabriela Mena Ribadeneira - The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. * Dr Jessica Grieger - The University of Adelaide * Lucas Phal - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The purpose of this research is to better understand the relationships between weight gain, physical activity and aspects of young women's reproductive health, with a focus on the potential effects of physical activity and menstrual irregularities on weight-reproductive health relationships. We will examine relationships between weight gain and indicators of reproductive health in young women (ability to have children, use of in vitro fertilisation (IVF), use of fertility hormones, PCOS, endometriosis etc). As women gain weight, they may develop menstrual irregularities that are precursors to infertility. However, physical activity may modify the relationship between weight gain and these health outcomes. The results will inform the development of practices which may help to establish better reproductive health in young women. |
| Publications: | Prospective associations between physical activity and BMI with irregular periods and heavy menstrual bleeding in a large cohort of Australian women. Mena GP, Mielke GI & Brown W. Human Reproduction, 2021, 36(6); 1481-1491.  Do physical activity, sitting time and body mass index affect fertility over a 15-year period in women? Data from a large population-based cohort study. Mena GP, Mielke GI & Brown WJ. Human Reproduction, 2020, 35(3); 676-683. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Do physical activity and sitting time affect associations between BMI and fertility in women? Data from a large population-based cohort study. Mena GP, Mielke GI & Brown WJ. The 2019 ASICS Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) Conference, Sunshine Coast, QLD 23 - 26 October 2019.  Do physical activity and sitting time affect associations between BMI and fertility in women? Data from a large population-based cohort study. Mena GP, Mielke GI & Brown WJ. People, Partnership, Performance HMNS Postgraduate Conference, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Qld, 21 October 2019.  Longitudinal associations between physical activity and BMI with menstrual symptoms: data from a large population-based cohort study. Mena GP, Mielke GI & Brown WJ. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Brisbane, QLD, 27-28 May 2021.  High levels of physical activity are associated with a lower occurrence of heavy menstrual bleeding: Data from a large population-based cohort study. Mena GP, Mielke GI & Brown WJ. 2021 Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) Conference, Melbourne, VIC, 6-9 October 2021.  The role of physical activity in fertility. Mena G. FACTS Conference 2022 For the Future of Women’s Health, Virtual, 23 July 2022. |

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| Project ID: A736A | **Screen time in Australian children: Socioeconomic, maternal, parenting, time use and family environment factors associated with meeting screen time guidelines (Analysis of data from the MatCH study)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Recently released guidelines from the Australian Government recommends maximum daily screen time for children aged 0 - <1, 1-2, 3-5 and 5-12 years. Previous Australian research has linked screen time in children with socioeconomic factors in their parents (for example years of education) as well as with parenting style and home environment, however the majority of this research has investigated this issue in older children, has not linked long standing maternal factors and has not examined associations between and within families. This research aims to determine the associations between children’s screen time and sleep, diet, physical activity, physical and cognitive development, quality of life, behaviour, maternal factors, parenting styles and the home environment. |
| Publications: | Adherence to screen time guidelines among families in australia with children of different ages. Tooth LR, Moss KM & Mishra GD. JAMA Pediatrics, 2022, 176(5); 517-519.  Screen time and child behaviour and health-related quality of life: Effect of family context. Tooth LR, Moss KM & Mishra GD. Preventative Medicine, 2021, 153; 106795.  Adherence to screen time recommendations for Australian children aged 0-12 years. Tooth L, Moss K, Hockey R & Mishra G. Medical Journal of Australia, 2019, 211(4); 181-182. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Are screen time guidelines actually working for Australian families? Tooth L, Moss K, Hockey R, Mishra G. Population Health Congress, Adelaide, SA, 21-23 September 2022.  How adherence to Australian screen time guidelines differs by age in Australian children aged 0 to 12 years. Tooth L. Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2019, Tooth L. 23-25 October 2019. |

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| Project ID: A741 | **Patient level factors that can contribute to adverse events in older women - A retrospective study of women in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Tazeen Majeed - School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | We are exploring patient level factors that can contribute to adverse events in the aging population during episodes of hospitalization. We would like to look at the old and mid-age cohort of women as older people and women are both higher user of hospitals. By looking at the survey details of patients who have had adverse events, we would like to assess the effects of aging like frailty and comorbidities, cognitive deficits including dementia and related conditions, and social living circumstances including availability of social support on the adverse events.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A751A | **The association of lifestyle factors with inflammatory conditions in women with and without polycystic ovary syndrome** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Lisa Moran - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Prof James Hebert - Cancer Prevention and Control Program, University of South Carolina * Dr Nitin Shivappa - University of South Carolina * Dr Jessica Grieger - The University of Adelaide * Dr Cate Bailey - Monash Centre for Health, Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Aya Mousa - Monash University * Amreen Naqash - University of Kashmir * Margaret McGowan - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome is a condition affecting up to 1 in 5 reproductive-aged women associated with reproductive, metabolic and psychological complications. Inflammation is proposed as one of the aetiological factors associated with PCOS and conditions associated with increased inflammation such as asthma and depression are more prevalent in women with PCOS. Different foods are understood to modify inflammation so that better quality diets or diets higher in fruit and vegetables tend to be anti-inflammatory. However, the contribution of dietary quality to conditions associated with inflammation in PCOS is not known. This study investigatse whether dietary quality is associated with type 2 diabetes, depression and asthma in women with and without PCOS. |
| Publications: | The association between dietary intake, asthma, and PCOS in women from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Grieger JA, Hodge A, Mishra G, Joham AE & Moran LJ. Journal of Clinical Medicine, 2020, 9(1); E233. |

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| Project ID: A754 | **Signs and symptoms as predictors of COPD in women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Roger Engel - Macquarie University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Katie de Luca - School of Health, Medical and Applied Sciences, Central Queensland University * Dr Petra Graham - Macquarie University * A/Prof Subramanyam Vemulpad - Maquarie University * Dr Masoumeh Kaboli Farshchi - Maquarie University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is characterised by progressive loss of lung function. The main symptoms are breathlessness, cough, sputum production, chest tightness and falling exercise capacity. Many sufferers are unaware of their condition and attribute the symptoms to ageing or a lack of fitness. Identifying the signs and symptoms that herald the beginning of the disease is essential to improving prognosis. The Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH) provides an ideal opportunity to study the development of these early signs and symptoms in women who have been diagnosed with COPD. |
| Publications: | Breathing difficulty, chest and back pain predict bronchitis and emphysema in women. Engel RM, de Luca K, Graham P, Kaboli Farshchi M, Vemulpad S & Byles J. Respirology, 2019, 24(S1); 72.  Predictors of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in women who have never smoked: a cohort study. Engel RM, de Luca K, Graham PL, Farshchi MK, Vemulpad S & Byles J. ERJ Open Research, 2022, 8(2). |
| Conference / Presentations: | Breathing difficulty, chest and back pain predict bronchitis and emphysema in women. Engel RM, de Luca K, Graham P, Kaboli Farshchi M, Vemulpad S & Byles J. 2019 Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Scientific Research Society Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast, QLD, 29 March - 2 April 2019.  Breathing difficulty, chest and back pain predict bronchitis and emphysema in women: A potential role for chiropractors in chronic respiratory disease management? Engel R, De Luca K,Graham P, Kaboli Farshchi M, Vemulpad S & Byles J. Chiropractic Australia National Conference, Gold Coast, QLD 23 - 25 August 2019. A potential role for chiropractors in the early detection and management of women at risk of developing chronic respiratory disease later in life. Engel R, De Luca K, Graham P, Kaboli Farshchi M, Vemulpad S, Byles J. Australian Chiropractors Association Conference, Melbourne, VIC, 18 - 20 October 2019. |

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| Project ID: A755 | **Generational differences in mental, sexual, reproductive, maternal and child health among Australian sexual minority women (lesbian, bisexual, mostly heterosexual)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Leah East - The University of Southern Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Ruth McNair - Dept of General Practice, University of Melbourne * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Tonda Hughes - School of Nursing, Columbia University * A/Prof Bethany Everett - Department of Sociology, University of Utah * Dr Cindy Woods - University of New England * Prof Marie Hutchinson - School of Health and Human Sciences, Southern Cross University * Dr Helena Menih - University of New England * Dr Suzie Cosh - University of New England * Prof Debra Jackson - University of Technology Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project aims to examine generational differences in mental, sexual, reproductive, maternal and child health between heterosexual and sexual minority women (lesbian, bisexual, mostly heterosexual; SMW). Previous analysis indicates that SMW are more likely than heterosexual women to have poorer mental health, higher substance use, lower satisfaction with healthcare and are at an increased risk of experiencing STIs and unintended pregnancy. Sexual minority status is also associated with preconception risk behaviours that can have a negative impact on maternal, infant and child outcomes. This project will examine if these risk behaviours and health disparities continue to exist and impact on maternal and child health outcomes through comparing differences among three cohorts of women. |
| Publications: | Reproductive and sexual health effects of intimate partner violence: A longitudinal and intergenerational analysis. Hutchinson M, Cosh SM & East L. Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare, 2023, 35(100816). |

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| Project ID: A757A | **The health system costs of women who experience domestic violence** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jananie William - Australian National University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Bronwyn Loong - Australian National University * Dr Dana Hanna - Research School of Economics, Australian National University * Dr Rebecca Reeve - University of New South Wales * Dr Bonny Parkinson - Centre for the Health Economy, Macquarie University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Our project investigates the health services used by women who experience domestic violence and the corresponding health system costs of these services. The health system costs refer to government-funded expenditure through Medicare and relate to both in-patient hospital and out-of-hospital care (such as general practitioner visits). We will also consider costs through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. The results will be used to inform health policy and domestic violence services to ultimately better support affected women. |
| Publications: | Lifetime health costs of intimate partner violence: A prospective longitudinal cohort study with linked data for out-of-hospital and pharmaceutical costs. William J, Loong B, Hanna D & Loxton D. Economic Modelling, 2022, 116(1); 10613. |
| Conference / Presentations: | The lifetime health costs of intimate partner violence: A prospective longitudinal cohort study with linked data for out-of-hospital and pharmaceutical costs. Parkinson B, William J, Loong B, Hanna B & Loxton D. 43rd Annual AHES Conference, Parkinson B, William J, Loong B, Hanna B & Loxton D. 20-21 September 2022.  The lifetime health costs of intimate partner violence: A prospective longitudinal cohort study with linked data for out-of-hospital and pharmaceutical costs. Parkinson B, William J, Loong B, Hanna D & Loxton D. 12th Health Services Research Conference, Parkinson B, William J, Loong B, Hanna D & Loxton D. 30 November - 02 December 2022. |

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| Project ID: A775 | **Mental and physical health trajectories among women in midlife** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Karin Hammarberg - Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Jane Fisher - School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University * Prof Flavia Cicuttini - Department of Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine, Monash University * Prof Martha Hickey - The University of Melbourne * Dr Thach Tran - School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University * Ms Hau Nguyen - Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Australia’s population is ageing and women over 50 will soon be the largest demographic group. Maintaining and promoting the health of women as they age is vital to the Australian economy and for the maintenance of family and community structures. To inform health policy and health promotion strategies, this project’s aim is to describe the social, situational, financial, physical, and psychological factors that predict physical and mental health and wellbeing in women over age 50. ALSWH data collected over 20 years from women in the 1946-51 cohort (aged 45 to 50 years when they completed the first survey) will be used.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A778 | **Parity and mode of birth and their relationship to general and gynaecological health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Davis - University of Canberra |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland * Prof Ellen Aagaard Nohr - University of Southern Denmark * A/Prof Chunsen Wu - University of Southern Denmark |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | As 32.3% of all deliveries in Australia are caesarean sections, it is important to address the long-term consequences of this procedure. This project compares self-perceived general health, emotional wellbeing and different gynaecological complications such as irregular periods, severe period pain, heavy periods, urinary incontinence, and surgery for hysterectomy, prolapse of vagina, bladder and bowel in groups of Australian women who delivered vaginally, by caesarean section, or not at all.  We have published a paper in *PLOS One*, summary findings were:  *Objective:* To examine how (a) parity and (b) mode of birth were associated with later Quality of Life (QOL) in young adult women, with a mean follow-up of 11.0 years.  *Design:* Prospective cohort study. *Setting*: Australia. *Sample:* A total of 7,770 women participating in the 1973-78 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women’s Health.  *Methods*: Linear regression models were used to estimate (1) prospective associations between parity and mode of birth with eight subscale and two summary scores of the SF36, assessed after a mean follow-up of 11 years., and (2) differences between SF36 scores at follow up for women in different parity and mode of birth categories. Main outcome measure Quality of Life as measured by the SF36  *Results:* Women experiencing no births (parity 0) and one birth (parity 1) had lower scores on all the physical health measures, and on some mental health measures, than women who had 2 births (parity 2; all p<0.05)  Conclusions: Parity and mode of birth may have long-term implications for women’s physical and mental health. Both childless women and women with only one child had poorer physical and mental health than their peers with two children. Women with Caesarean section(s) also had poorer health than women who had vaginal births. |
| Publications: | Parity and mode of birth and their relationships with quality of life: A longitudinal study. Davis DL, Wu C, Brown WJ & Nohr EA. PLOS ONE, 2022. |

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| Project ID: A780 | **Endometriosis: Prevalence, health outcomes and health service use** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Ingrid Rowlands - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Grant Montgomery - Institute for Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland * Prof Jason Abbott - University of New South Wales * Dr Dereje Gedle Gete - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Sally Mortlock - Institute for Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Based on international data, endometriosis is clinically diagnosed in 10-13% of women. However, there are no current national, Australian estimates. This study estimates the prevalence of endometriosis (self-reported and surgically confirmed) in two cohorts of young women and describes women’s long-term health outcomes and health service use. Data from women’s self-reported doctor diagnoses of endometriosis from the ALSWH surveys will be combined with surgery data from Medicare Benefits Schedule and the state-based Admitted Patients Data collections to provide national estimates and examine outcomes. |
| Publications: | Prevalence and incidence of endometriosis in Australian women: a data linkage cohort study. Rowlands IJ, Abbott JA, Montgomery GW, Hockey R, Rogers P & Mishra GD. Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 2020, 128(4); 657-665.  Body mass index and the diagnosis of endometriosis: Findings from a national data linkage cohort study. Rowlands I, Hockey R, Abbott J, Montgomery G & Mishra G. Obesity Research and Clinical Practice, 2022, 16(3); 235-241.  Longitudinal changes in employment following a diagnosis of endometriosis: Findings from an Australian cohort study. Rowlands I, Hockey R, Abbott J, Montgomery G & Mishra G. Annals of Epidemiology, 2022, 69; 1-8. |

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| Project ID: A782 | **Stillbirth: Prevalence, menstrual problems, and future health outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Vicki Clifton - Mothers and Babies Theme, Mater Medical Research Institute, The University of Queensland * Prof Vicki Flenady - Mater Research Institute, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | In Australia, the rate of stillbirth is 6.7 per 1000 births. This is equivalent to 2,107 stillborn babies each year. Established risk factors include maternal health (hypertension, diabetes), primiparity, pregnancy complications (fetal growth restriction, prolonged pregnancy), smoking, overweight and obesity, and history of stillbirth. It is already known that women who experience pregnancy complications are more likely to report a cardiovascular disease related event, such as angina, heart attack, and arrhythmia, suggesting a link between adverse pregnancy events such as stillbirth and future health (Friebert et al., 2011). Lykke et al. reported that women who experience a pregnancy complication including a stillbirth in their first pregnancy are twice as likely to die prematurely. In a Danish study, women with irregular menstrual cycles had an increased risk of preeclampsia, preterm birth, and prolonged pregnancy. Therefore, the characteristics of the preconception menstrual cycles may be a marker of both pregnancy outcomes and post-pregnancy health. Limited studies are available on the associations between preconception menstrual patterns and stillbirth. Similarly, there is a lack of information on changes in the physical and mental health of women who have had stillbirth, or on their GP use. We hypothesize that menstrual problems might be early indicators of increased risk of stillbirth and poorer health in the future.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A787 | **Intimate partner violence, reproductive outcomes and contraceptive use in the 1973-1978 and 1989-95 cohorts** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Jacqueline Coombe - Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, The University of Melbourne * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Women are disproportionally at greater risk of family, domestic and sexual violence (FDSV), which is typically perpetrated by a current or previous partner, and usually takes place in their home. Women experiencing FDSV are less likely to have a planned pregnancy or be able to make autonomous decisions about their contraceptive use. Using data from the 1973-78 and 1989-93 cohorts, we aim to examine the patterns of contraceptive use, and reproductive outcomes (including accidental pregnancy, miscarriage, termination and birth) for women who report experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV), versus those women who have not. |
| Publications: | Contraceptive use among women through their later reproductive years: Findings from an Australian prospective cohort study. Harris ML, Egan N, Forder PM, Coombe J & Loxton D. PLOS ONE, 2021, 16(8); e0255913. |

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| Project ID: A789 | **Examining the long-term impacts of abuse on women's health across the life course** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Experiencing violence or abuse can lead to negative health outcomes. There are many forms of violence and abuse that women may experience across their life course, including childhood abuse, intimate partner violence and elder abuse. While some women have never experienced such trauma, others have experienced multiple forms of abuse throughout their lives. This project aims to examine the relationship between different patterns of abuse and health outcomes, and to identify the factors that mitigate or exacerbate the impact of abuse on health.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A793A | **Urinary incontinence in women with and without polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Jillian (Chau Thien) Tay - Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Urinary incontinence affects up to one in two postmenopausal women and one in three premenopausal women. It causes great embarrassment and reduces quality of life. Reproductive hormones play a role in urinary continence but the mechanisms are not understood. Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a complex hormonal disorder characterized by reproductive hormones dysregulation and insulin resistance. Women with PCOS are prone to weight gain and diabetes, both of which are important risk factors for urinary incontinence. We intend to study the association of PCOS with urinary incontinence and how urinary incontinence impacts the psychology well-being of women with PCOS.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A797A | **Chronic Conditions from Multiple Sources: Production and update of CCMS datasets and Data Dictionary** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * David Fitzgerald - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Amy Anderson - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Colleen Loos- Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Michael Waller - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Paul McElwee - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Major Report O (2020) examined the prevalence and incidence of common chronic conditions among ALSWH cohorts. The methodology for the ascertainment of the conditions which was developed for that report used all available data sources (ALSWH surveys and administrative data, and external linked data). This methodological work forms the basis for the ongoing production of the CCMS (Chronic Conditions from Multiple Sources) datasets. |
| Publications: | Accuracy of death certifications of diabetes, dementia, and cancer in Australia: A population-based cohort study. Xu Z, Hockey R, McElwee P, Waller M & Dobson A. BMC Public Health, 2022, 22(1); 902. |

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| Project ID: A798 | **HPV vaccinations and adherence to screening** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Penny Reeves - Hunter Medical Research Institute, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Julila Brotherton - VCS Population Health * Prof David Durrheim - The University of Newcastle * Teagan Lindsay - University of Newcastle * Francesca Orchard-Hall - The University of Newcastle * Joseph Welsh - The University of Newcastle * Callum Sinclair - The University of Newcastle * Karina Ly - The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Free HPV vaccinations were introduced for Australian females aged 12-26 years in 2007 with free school-based vaccination of 12-13 year old girls ongoing and vaccination of boys introduced in 2013. This government initiative has dramatically decreased the prevalence of HPV in younger men and women. However, screening remains important to prevent cervical cancer effectively amongst both vaccinated and unvaccinated women. We aim to determine factors that are associated with women not participating in cervical screening and assess the relationship between HPV vaccination and screening behaviour. Currently one manuscript is in draft form and analysis completed for the 2nd manuscript. |
| Project ID: A800A | **Women’s health services use across life** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Zhiwei Xu - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Evidence that is more detailed is needed regarding the pattern of women’s health service use across life, and how these patterns may vary by sociodemographic and behavioural factors and reproductive events. This research will conduct a comprehensive assessment of Australian women’s use of health services across life stages and identify key factors influencing distinct patterns of health service use. |
| Publications: | Associations of socioeconomic and health factors with dental non-attendance: A comparison of three cohorts of women. Wilson LF, Xu Z, Doust J, Mishra GD & Dobson AJ. Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology, 2022.  Did changes to recommended testing criteria affect the rate of vitamin D testing among Australian women. Wilson LF, Xu Z, Mishra GD, Dobson AJ & Doust J. Archives of Osteoporosis, 2020, 15(1); 162.  Associations of protective factors with physical function in women with a hysterectomy: A prospective Australian cohort study. Wilson LF & Mishra GD. Maturitas, 2022, 161; 55-57.  Symptom patterns and health service use of women in early adulthood: a latent class analysis from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Wilson LF, Doust J, Mishra GD & Dobson AJ. BMC Public Health, 2023, 23(147).  Socioeconomic, behavioural and health factors associated with chlamydia testing in sexually active young women: an Australian observational cohort study. Wilson LF, Dobson AJ, Doust J & Mishra GD. Sexual Health, 2022, 19(2); 112-121. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Agreement between self-reported chlamydia infection and chlamydia infection ascertained using testing and medication administrative data. Wilson L. World Congress of Epidemiology, 2021. Virtual, 3-6 September 2021.  Modifiable factors and dentist visits: a comparison of three cohorts of women. Wilson L, Xu Z, Mishra G, Doust J & Dobson A. Preventive Health Conference 2021, Hybrid Conference, Perth, WA, 10-12 May 2021.  The impact of changing MBS criteria for vitamin D testing. Wilson L, Xu Z, Mishra G, Dobson A & Doust J. Choosing Wisely National Meeting, Wilson L, Xu Z, Mishra G, Dobson A & Doust J. 19 May 2021.  The associations between sociodemographic factors and symptom patterns in young Australian women. Wilson L, Doust J, Dobson A & Mishra G. Population Health Congress, Adelaide, SA, 21-23 September 2022. |

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| Project ID: A812 | **Women’s health services use before and after diagnosis of a non-communicable disease (NCD)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Danusha Jayawardana - Centre for Health Economics, Monash University. |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Evidence that is more detailed is needed regarding the pattern of women’s health service use across life, in particular the impact of a diagnosis of one or more non-communicable diseases (NCDs). This research will examine patterns of health service use before and after diagnosis of a NCD at different life stages, including the impact of subsequent additional NCDs and multi-morbidity.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A817 | **Osteoporosis in Australian women: Exploring differences related to age at menopause and location** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Amanda Vincent - Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Alicia Jones - School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine, Monash University * Prof Peter Ebeling - School of Clinical Sciences, Monash University * Dr Joanne Enticott - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Osteoporosis is a significant health concern, leading to fractures, loss of mobility and independence. Over 60% of women over the age of 50 have reduced bone density. Younger women with early menopause, breast cancer or other risk factors may also have reduced bone density. Evidence shows higher rates of hip fractures in rural areas of Australia, and lower osteoporosis knowledge among women with early menopause in rural areas. This study aims to assess differences between investigation and treatment of osteoporosis in (i) early menopause compared to women with expected-age menopause and (ii) rural compared to metropolitan areas of Australia.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A819B | **Lifetime reproduction outcomes in women with polycystic ovary syndrome** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Jillian (Chau Thien) Tay - Monash University * Dr Maria Forslund - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a complex hormonal disorder common affecting one in five women and one in four Australian Indigenous women. It is one of the most common cause of infertility and more than two-thirds of women with PCOS required fertility treatment to conceive. Family planning in women with PCOS are therefore extremely important as the success of fertility treatment are highly dependent on age. We intend to examine throughout the women’s reproductive life, their preconception health and fertility outcomes including the mean age of first and subsequent deliveries, delivery mode, pregnancy complications, delivery, use of fertility treatment, and final family size.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A832 | **The projected impact of pre-existing mental illness on perinatal mental health, pregnancy and birth among young Australian women (born 1989-95)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Marie-Paule Austin - Perinatal and Women's Mental Health, University of New South Wales * Dr Nicole Reilly - University of Wollongong * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Previous mental health is a strong predictor of perinatal mental health, such that women with poor mental health before they are pregnant are much more likely to experience mental health issues during and after pregnancy. Analysis of ALSWH data has previously shown the robust link between past mental health and antenatal and postnatal mental health problems among women born 1973-78. A very high proportion of the ALSWH cohort born 1989-95 have reported psychological distress and diagnosed mental health disorders, much higher than the number of women reporting these issues in the cohort born 1973-78. As the 1989-95 cohort enter the childbearing years, it is important to understand the scope of mental health issues that might be experienced by women in this age group, given the high proportion who have a history of mental health problems.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A833 | **Use of external administrative data that may be linked with ALSWH survey data to develop and illustrate methodological issues** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * David Fitzgerald - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Colleen Loos- Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Michael Waller - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Darsy Darssan - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Paul McElwee - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Chen Liang - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project will facilitate research planning, in particular, the judicious use of linked data, by enabling key ALSWH researchers at The Universities of Queensland and Newcastle, who have extensive experience with linked data, to conduct exploratory analyses and preparatory work for government deliverables. The results of these analyses will only be used to inform research planning. Where analyses are considered worth pursuing, a new EoI will be developed and submitted to the Data Access Committee.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A835 | **Are calcium channel blockers associated with breast cancer? Assessing the impact of long-term use in large longitudinal cohorts** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Rachael Moorin - Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute, Curtin University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Sallie-Anne Pearson - University of New South Wales * Prof Chris Reid - Curtain University * Prof Christobel Saunders - The University of Melbourne * Prof Walter Abhayaratna - Canberra Health Services * Prof David Preen - University of Western Australia * Prof Bruno Stricker - Erasmus University, * Prof Jeff Hughes - Curtin University * Prof Max Bulsara - University of Notre Dame * Cameron Wright - Curtin University * Dr Thi Ninh Ha - Health Economics & Data Analytics, Curtin School of Population Health, Curtin University * Dr Chau Ho - Curtin University * Dr David Youens - Curtin University * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Breast cancer is the commonest cancer in women. Calcium channel blockers (CCBs) are frequently used worldwide to treat high blood pressure. A link between use of CCBs and breast cancer has been proposed with mixed findings in North American, European and Asian women. No data exist for Australian women. Since 1 in 8 Australian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer by age 85 years, it is important to determine whether this risk is increased by the use of CCBs.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A839 | **Preconception Period Analysis of Risks and Exposures influencing health and Development (PrePARED) consortium: PrePARED-Australia consortium** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Hsin-Fang Chung - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Assoc. Prof. Emily W Harville - Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine * Ke Pan - Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine * A/Prof Shelley Wilkinson - Mater Medical Research |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The conventional focus of intervening during pregnancy to reduce the risk of adverse health outcomes is ‘too little too late’. More than half of Australian women enter pregnancy overweight or obese. Maternal obesity is associated with increased risk of pregnancy complications (e.g., preeclampsia and gestational diabetes) and adverse birth outcomes (e.g., stillbirth and low birthweight, macrosomia). Antenatal intervention studies on the effect of diet and exercise among obese and overweight women show only modest reductions in gestational weight gain, and no significant reduction in the risk of adverse outcomes. The 2018 Lancet series on preconception health highlighted the critical need to refocus the timing of changes in exposure levels before conception to comprehensively understand the risk of adverse outcomes. PrePARED Australia aims to assemble and analyse data from existing cohort studies and establish the evidence base on the timing of preconception exposures associated with adverse pregnancy, birth, child outcomes and post-pregnancy maternal health. The knowledge gained will inform more effective preconception healthcare strategies |
| Conference / Presentations: | Data pooling and harmonization across pre-conception studies: The PrePARED Consortium (Speed Talk). Ke P et al. The Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER), Ke P et al. 26 May - 18 June 2021.  Preconception cannabis use and gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM): the PrePARED consortium. Pan K, Charlton BM, Chavarro JE, Gunderson EP, Hart J, Jukic AM, Ley S, Mishra GD, Mumford SL, Shaffer JG, Wise LA & Harville EW. 2022 Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER), Chicago, USA, 13-14 June 2022.  Preconception cannabis use, gestational hypertension, and pre-eclampsia: the PrePARED consortium. Pan K, Charlton BM, Chavarro JE, Gunderson EP, Hart J, Jukic AM, Ley S, Mishra GD, Mumford SL, Shaffer JG, Wise LA & Harville EW. 2022 Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER), Chicago, USA, 13-14 June 2022. |

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| Project ID: A841 | **Econometric modelling and resources use implications of NCDs for women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Brenda Gannon - Centre for Business and Economics of Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Danusha Jayawardana - Centre for Health Economics, Monash University. * Aarushi Dhingra - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Given that there is limited evidence on the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) among women in Australia, the aim of this project is two-fold. First, this project will apply econometric models to evaluate the current burden of NCDs, in terms of health care services and resource costs. Second, simulation and forecasting models will be used to quantify the future costs of NCDs, while accounting for the prevalence of risk factors. |
| Publications: | Excess healthcare costs of psychological distress in young women: Evidence from linked national Medicare claims data. Jayawardana D, Gannon B, Doust J & Mishra GD. Health Economics, 2022, 32(3); 715-734. |
| Conference / Presentations: | An economic framework for exploring the impact of non-communicable diseases on healthcare utilisation. Jayawardana D. International Health Economics Association (iHEA) World Congress, Virtual July 2021.  Excess healthcare costs of depressive symptoms in late adolescence: Evidence from national Medicare claims data. Jayawardana D. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Brisbane, QLD, 27-28 May 2021.  Excess healthcare costs of depressive symptoms in late adolescence: Evidence from national Medicare claims data. Jayawardana D. Econometric Society Australasian Meeting (ESAM), Jayawardana D. 7-9 July 2021.  Excess healthcare costs of depressive symptoms in late adolescence: Evidence from national Medicare claims data. Jayawardana D. 42nd Annual Australian Health Economics Society (AHES) Conference, Virtual, 21-22 September 2021. |

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| Project ID: A844 | **Understanding the Australian “Weekend Warrior” physical activity pattern and its health consequences in Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Shelley Keating - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland * Ruth Brady - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland * Dr Yuta Nemoto - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The role of physical activity (PA) in the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases is well established. However, it remains unclear whether different patterns of duration, frequency and intensity of activity are critical for the prevention of different conditions. The aim of this project is to understand the “weekend warrior” physical activity pattern and its health consequences in Australian women. This study will improve knowledge and understanding of the optimal patterns of PA for improved health in women. The findings of this study can be used to inform the development of strategies for increasing PA among women and thereby help to prevent inactivity-related chronic health problems. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Associations of physical activity frequency and intensity with incidence of hypertension and obesity over 15 years in Australian women. Mielke G, Lamerton T, Keating S, Nunes B, Brady R & Brown W. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Brisbane, QLD, 27-28 May 2021. |

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| Project ID: A845 | **Predictors of infertility and costs of infertility treatments in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Maarit Laaksonen - School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of New South Wales |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Serena Yu - University of Technology Sydney * Prof Kees Van Gool - Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, University of Technology Sydney * Prof Jake Olivier - School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of New South Wales |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Infertility is estimated to affect one in six Australian couples of reproductive age. It can be successfully treated with lifestyle changes and medical interventions. However, the evidence of the effect of some modifiable lifestyle-related and hormonal factors on infertility is inconclusive. There is also lack of knowledge on the expected full cost of medical treatment of infertility in Australia. We aim to improve fertility outcomes and access to care by producing information on modifiable predictors of infertility and costs of infertility treatment among Australian women to allow for more informed individual choice and policy-making.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A847 | **Income contingent loans for women who experience intimate partner violence** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jananie William - Australian National University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Bruce Chapman - Crawford School of Public Policy * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Timothy Higgins - Australian National University * Yunxi (Lucy) Hu - Actuarial Studies, Australian National University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Financial stress is known to be a major factor for women staying in violent relationships. This project will investigate an income-contingent loan (ICL) scheme for women who experience intimate partner violence (IPV) to enable them to more safely leave these situations. Data from the ALSWH will be used to analyse the demographics of women who experience violence, which will provide input into the parameters of an ICL scheme so that it will be financially sustainable for all parties involved.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A850 | **Understanding health care use by Australian women after stroke: Change in health status and service access** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Jennifer White - University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Stroke is a major health care issue in Australia, with over 60,000 new cases of stroke each year. Designated hospital-based stroke units and rehabilitation services have also proven integral to improved stroke survival. Despite this many stroke survivors are discharged directly home from the hospital where they often realize the extent of their disabilities, often not identified during their hospitalization. Furthermore, they are at risk for complications such as falls, physical de-conditioning, aspiration pneumonia, infections, social isolation and depression as well as recurrent stroke. Concern stems from evidence that many stroke survivors do not access essential rehabilitation services. The purpose of this study is to investigate the prospective experience of stroke in women participating in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH). Specifically, we will focus on characterising access to health service use.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A851 | **The mental health of young Australian women: a comparison of two national cohorts surveyed 17-21 years apart** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Nicole Reilly - University of Wollongong | |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Marie-Paule Austin - Perinatal and Women's Mental Health, University of New South Wales * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Synopsis: | Previous ALSWH research has demonstrated poorer physical health outcomes, and higher levels of stress, for women born 1989-95 compared to women born 1973-78. This project will extend this earlier work by comparing the self-reported mental health of the 1989-95 and 1973-78 ALSWH cohorts, who were surveyed 17-21 years apart, when both groups were aged 18-27 years. We will identify whether sociodemographic factors, health behaviours or other factors explain any mental health differences identified between the cohorts over time. We will also examine which risk and protective factors are the most salient in terms of mental health outcomes for young women, and whether these have also changed over time.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. | |
| Project ID: A856 | | **The association between types of meat consumption and the risk of type 2 diabetes: a federated meta-analysis in the InterConnect project** |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Dr Hsin-Fang Chung - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Nita Forouhi - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Prof Nick Wareham - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Tom Bishop - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Chunxiao Li - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Fumiaki Imamura - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Stephen Sharp - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Soumya Banerjee - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Matthew Pearce - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University |
| Liaison person: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | | The habitual consumption of red and processed meat may elevate the risk of type 2 diabetes (T2D). However, research evidence to-date has been highly heterogenous, reflecting a variation in dietary habits related to meat consumption and T2D risk. Existing evidence is predominantly from North America and Europe, with little information from Australia, or other areas. Moreover, evidence for poultry intake remains sparse. To better understand the potential link between meat consumption and T2D by geographical regions, the participation of ALSWH study in InterConnect, an international collaboration, will be important. A unique feature of InterConnect project is that a federated meta-analysis approach is employed so all data will stay at source and the analysis will come to the data. We are aiming to recruit 30 studies worldwide in this meta-analysis project.  The results from the ALSWH studies have been consolidated with data from approximately 30 other studies globally, encompassing around 2 million individuals and about 10,000 diabetes cases. The collaborators have completed the primary analyses and have prepared a manuscript currently under internal review (InterConnect Team). They aim to present the results and manuscript by the end of 2023.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A859 | **Socio-demographic and health factors associated with the adherence of Australian Dietary guidelines in women aged 68-73 years** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Gilly Hendrie - CSIRO Nutrition and Health Program * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Previous research conducted among Australian women indicates that the level of adherence to the Australian Dietary Guidelines (ADG) is low (Mishra, Schoenaker et al. 2015).  For example, among women aged 50-55 years, the adherence to dietary recommendations was 48% for fruit, but for vegetables was just 1.8%. The aims of this research are to:  1)   determine the prevalence of Australian women aged 68-73 who met ADG 2013 by socio-demographic, body weight, health behaviours  2)   examine the associations between, general health, the presence of chronic conditions (self-report doctor diagnosed   diabetes, depression), and the adherence to ADG2013  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1204 | **Women’s drinking during the COVID crisis: predictors of increased and heavy episodic alcohol consumption and women’s narratives around drinking** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Penny Buykx - University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Sally Hunt - The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | This study aims to undertake a detailed exploration of the factors associated with increased alcohol consumption and hazardous alcohol consumption among Australian women during the pandemic.  Data will be drawn from the ALSWH longitudinal data set and supplementary "Covid-19" rapid surveys. Regression analyses will explore the relationship between demographic characteristics, previously (i.e., pre-Covid) self-reported level of alcohol use, work and parenting responsibilities, and mental health on the one hand and increased and/or hazardous alcohol use during the pandemic on the other. Participants will be the approximately 7000 women who completed the supplementary Covid-19 Survey 6 regarding alcohol consumption in July 2020. Qualitative comments collected via this survey will also be thematically analysed for further insights into women's experience of alcohol consumption during the pandemic.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1215 | **A life-course approach to infertility and mental health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Tazeen Majeed - School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Dinberu Shebeshi - The University of Newcastle * Prof Elizabeth Sullivan - The University of Newcastle * Dr Tanmay Bagade - The University of Newcastle * Dr Erica Breuer - The University of Newcastle * Dr Kailash Thapaliya - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Rashmi Kamath - Samatva Wellness |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Infertility is a major problem affecting millions of people globally. It is estimated that in Australia, 1 in 6 couples are unable to conceive. This can cause a number of short term and long-term health problems, with mental health issues having the potential to impact women over their life course. Using the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH), this study will establish how infertility and related socioeconomic and other associated factors can impact the mental health of women, which may have the potential to affect the women over their life course. |
| Publications: | Investigating the association between infertility and psychological distress using Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health (ALSWH). Bagade T, Thapaliya K, Breuer E, Kamath R, Li Z, Sullivan E & Majeed T. Scientific Reports, 2022, 12(1); 10808. |

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| Project ID: A1223A | **Dietary patterns and infertility problems** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jessica Grieger - The University of Adelaide |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * A/Prof Lisa Moran - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Nahal Habibi - University of Adelaide * Kelly Hall - Adelaide Health Technology Assessment (AHTA), The University of Adelaide * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Shalem Leemaqz - Flinders University * Dr Gabriela Mena Ribadeneira - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Infertility affects around 1 in 6 couples, and is associated with significant emotional, social and health burden. There are a number of studies demonstrating certain foods or nutrients may associate with infertility, but there is still no conclusive guidance on the best types of foods to support fertility. Moreover, assessment of dietary patterns, as a holistic approach, has been rarely assessed in relation to fertility and increasing age.  Increasing age is a strong risk factor for infertility problems, but so is high BMI, and poor diet. In both younger and older women, the percent contribution of these risk factors to infertility problems has not been assessed. Furthermore, it is not known whether the contribution of BMI, diet, or lifestyle variables to infertility problems changes over the course of a women’s life, independent of the adverse effects of increasing age.  This study investigates dietary patterns and the association with reproductive health parameters. It also assesses the independent and joint contribution of diet and lifestyle variables, and risk for infertility problems, and determines whether the contribution of diet and lifestyle variables to fertility problems changes over time.  A manuscript on the first aim (dietary patterns and association with reproductive health parameters) has been published in Nutrients. The second aim (relative contribution analysis) is currently under review. |
| Publications: | Is the association between age and fertility problems modified by diet quality? Findings from a national study of reproductive age women in Australia. Habibi N, Hall KA, Moran LJ, Haag DG, Hodge AM & Grieger JA. Nutrients, 2022, 14(20); 4355. |

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| Project ID: A1227 | **Cardiovascular risk and metabolic health screening in women with polycystic ovary syndrome** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jillian (Chau Thien) Tay - Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * A/Prof Lisa Moran - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Mahnaz Bahri Khomami - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Venise Y Hon - Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a complex hormonal disorder common affecting one in five women and one in four Australian Indigenous women. PCOS is known to be associated with risk factors for heart disease such as diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol levels. In this project, we will compare the prevalence of risk factors for heart disease and the prevalence of screening for diabetes, blood pressure and cholesterol in women with and without PCOS.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1233 | **The use of assisted reproduction in women with polycystic ovary syndrome** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Hayden Homer - University of Queensland * Dr Tessa Copp - School of Public Health, The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Approximately 70% of women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) can experience difficulty trying to conceive (Teede et al., 2018). This can be due to increased hormone levels, higher weight, and irregularities in or absence of ovulation (Sirmans et al., 2013). This research will investigate the range of strategies (use of complementary and alternative medicine, ovulation induction, intrauterine insemination and in vitro fertilisation) used by Australian women with PCOS while trying to conceive.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1240 | **Contraception use by Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | There are limited Australian data on the use of contraception by women, their choice of contraceptive methods, patterns of use of contraceptive methods over various reproductive life stages and following reproductive events such as having a child or miscarriage. There is a lack of information on the socioeconomic, demographic and health characteristics of women in Australia who use different contraceptive methods. Reliable and up-to-date data on how the choice and use of contraception varies over the course of reproductive life, as well as the socio-economic determinants, are important to help inform government policies and strategies.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1241 | **Diet and sleep problems in a sample of Australian older women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Saman Khalesi - Central Queensland University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Corneel Vandelanotte - Appleton Institute and School of Health, Medical and Applied Sciences, Central Queensland University * Dr Grace Vincent - Appleton Institute and School of Health, Medical and Applied Sciences, Central Queensland University * Dr Charlotte Gupta - Appleton Institute and School of Health, Medical and Applied Sciences, Central Queensland University * Dr Christopher Irwin - Menzies Health Institute Queensland, School of Health Sciences and Social Work, Griffith University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Almost half of Australian adults do not get adequate sleep, with the frequency of sleep-related problems increasing with age. Poor sleep can influence functioning and may increase the long-term risk of developing chronic disease. Diet may influence sleep; e.g., carbohydrate and tryptophan-rich foods (e.g., milk) can improve sleep, while high-fat foods, alcohol and caffeine may disrupt sleep. However, dietary habits and sleep can be influenced by age-related physiological and psychosocial changes, stress and physical inactivity. This study will explore the link between dietary intakes of older Australian women and sleep with consideration for other confounding factors. |
| Publications: | Symptoms of sleep problems and adherence to dietary guidelines in older women: Evidence from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Khalesi S, Vandelanotte C, Irwin C, Vincent GE, Gupta C & Mishra GD. Public Health Nutrition, 2023. |

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| Project ID: A1246 | **Physical activity trajectories and associations with health-related quality of life and mortality outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Binh Nguyen - The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. * A/Prof Ding (Melody) Ding - Sydney School of Public Health, The University of Sydney * Dr Joseph Van Buskirk - School of Public Health, The University of Sydney * Dr Philip Clare - Prevention Research Collaboration, The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Most studies have estimated physical activity (PA) using a single time point. Few studies have examined the associations between PA trajectories across the lifespan, which may better reflect true PA patterns, and long-term health outcomes. The aim of this project is to examine the associations between PA trajectories and health-related quality of life and mortality outcomes in Australian women. This study's findings will improve knowledge and understanding of PA longitudinal patterns for improved health in women and can help inform the development of strategies for increasing PA among women and improving long-term health outcomes.  A manuscript relating to the study examining associations between longitudinal patterns of physical activity and health-related quality of life has been drafted, circulated to co-authors and is being finalised. A manuscript relating to the study examining associations between longitudinal patterns of physical activity and mortality outcomes is currently being drafted. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Could it ever be too late to adopt an active lifestyle? Longitudinal patterns of physical activity and health-related quality of life in a cohort of middle-aged Australian women. Nguyen B, Clare P, Mielke G, Brown W & Ding D. International Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting, Uppsala, Sweden, 14-17 June 2023. |

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| Project ID: A1252 | **Evaluating the impact of the 2018 PCOS guideline** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jillian (Chau Thien) Tay - Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * A/Prof Lisa Moran - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Joanne Enticott - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Mahnaz Bahri Khomami - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Rhonda Garad - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Shrinkhala Dawadi - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation * Demelash Handiso - Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a complex hormonal disorder affecting one in five women and one in four Australian Indigenous women. It is associated with many long-term health complications including infertility, diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol and poor mental health. The 2018 international evidence-based PCOS guideline recommends regular screening for metabolic and mental health complications in women with PCOS. We will evaluate the impact of the PCOS guideline by examining changes in clinical screening of PCOS complications. Findings will help guide future translation of guideline into clinical practice.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1257 | **The impact of Mediterranean diet adherence on medicines use pattern** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Imaina Widagdo - Quality Use of Medicines and Pharmacy Research Centre, University of South Australia |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Evangeline Mantzioris - University of South Australia * Dr Anthony Villani - University of the Sunshine Coast * Prof Nicole Pratt - Quality Use of Medicines and Pharmacy Research Centre, University of South Australia |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Mediterranean diet (MedDiet) is a plant-based dietary pattern high in fruit, vegetables, legumes, wholegrains  nuts, seeds and fish, with olive oil being the main fat source. Being predominately plant-based, the MedDiet is low in saturated fat, and rich in several antioxidants. Adherence to a MedDiet has been shown to be associated with beneficial cardiometabolic and cognitive health outcomes and promotes healthy ageing. However, there is limited knowledge on the benefit of a MedDiet on reducing medicine use. Therefore, this project will explore the relationship between adherence to a MedDiet and patterns of medicine use among the Australian population.  We are drafting a manuscript for our first analysis examining the pattern of Mediterranean Diet score, depressive symptoms, and medicines use among young cohort. |

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| Project ID: A1258 | **Implications of chronic disease for elderly contributions to market and productive non-market activities** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Marie Ishida - Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Ajay Mahal - Nossal Institute for Global Health, The University of Melbourne * Teralynn Ludwick - Nossal Institute for Global Health, The University of Melbourne |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Recent estimates suggest that unpaid work accounts for about 10% to 40% of GDP in OECD countries, including significant contributions by the elderly. A recognition of the value of unpaid services provided to society by the elderly also implies that policy evaluations of interventions should extend assessments to go beyond traditional indicators to include implications for non-market activities. In the context of interventions to improve health, this would mean extending measures of cost-effectiveness or cost-benefit ratios to go beyond traditional approaches that focus on outcomes such as beneficiaries’ quality of life, or their paid work contributions. The proposed work will shed light on this subject by exploring the potential consequences of chronic conditions for the economic value of elderly contributions in Australia and selected Asian countries - as workers and as providers of unpaid services, or productive non-market activities (PNMA).  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1260 | **Effectiveness of Better Access psychological treatment services among Australian women: A stratified analysis using predicted symptom trajectories** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Dianne Currier - The University of Melbourne |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Jane Pirkis - School of Population Health, University of Melbourne * A/Prof Dianne Currier - The University of Melbourne * A/Prof Matthew Spittal - The University of Melbourne * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Long Le - Deakin University * Prof Cathy Mihalopoulos - Public health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University * Dr Maria Ftanou - The University of Melbourne * Prof Philip Burgess - The University of Queensland * Dr Caley Tapp - The University of Queensland * Dr Vikas Arya - The University of Melbourne * Jan Faller - Deakin University * A/Prof Meredith Harris - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Since 2006, the Better Access program has aimed to increase the number of Australians accessing evidence-based psychological treatment though reimbursement of eligible providers under the Medicare Benefits Schedule. This study aims to investigate: (1) patterns of service utilisation and characteristics of women who have used Better Access psychological treatment services, and whether these have changed over the 15-years since the program was introduced, and (2) whether mental health outcomes differ between women who have and have not used these services, according to their level of need.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1264 | **The accumulation of violence and multidimensional disadvantage in the lives of young Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Alice Campbell - Life Course Centre & Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Janeen Baxter - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland * Dr Ella Kuskoff - School of Social Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Gendered violence is a source of disadvantage in the lives of women and a key contributor to gender inequality in contemporary Australia. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, girls are more likely than boys to be abused before the age of 15 (16% vs 11%), and women are almost four times as likely as men to have been the victim of sexual violence since the age of 15 (18% vs 5%). The aim of this project is to document how violence accumulates in the lives of Australian women from childhood to young adulthood, and how this violence contributes to women's multidimensional disadvantage. |
| Conference / Presentations: | The road to unfreedom: How violence and disadvantage accumulate in young women's lives.  Campbell A & Baxter J. Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies Annual International Conference, Cleveland, USA, 23-25 October 2022. |

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| Project ID: A1266 | **Testing a methodological approach for measuring agreement across data sources and trends in the incidence and methods of induced abortion by characteristics of young women in Australia using self-report and linked administrative health data** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Kristina Edvardsson - La Trobe University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leesa Hooker - La Trobe University * Prof Angela Taft - School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University * Dr Mridula Shankar - Monash University * Prof Deborah Bateson - Daffodil Centre * Prof Kirsten Black - University of Sydney * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Wendy Norman - Department of Family Practice, University of British Columbia * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Induced abortion is a common reproductive experience for women in Australia and is recognised as an essential service. Presently abortion data for public health planning and assessment is limited. We utilise self-reported abortion data from six waves of the ALSWH’s new young cohort (2013-2019) and its linkages with the Medicare Benefits Schedule, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the National Morbidity Hospital Database to: (1) evaluate levels of agreement between self-report and administrative data, and (2) test a measurement approach for ascertainment of abortion method, time trends in method distribution and characteristics associated with method type among this sample of young women.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1269 | **Coding of senility and old age in hospital data and death records** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | There is global debate concerning the appropriateness of the introduction of codes in ICD-11 in which old age is classified under general symptoms and a new extension code for age related disease. Use of such codes is supported by some who view ageing as a preventable/reversible pathological process, while others are concerned that these codes may lead to ageism in the determination of health needs and allocation of healthcare. This project will investigate how the existing codes have been applied in relation to hospital admission and cause of death, and under what circumstances.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1276 | **The relationship between a diagnosis of PCOS and menstrual irregularity, use of contraception and mental health over time** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Tessa Copp - School of Public Health, The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | In the women born in the 1989-95 cohort of ALSWH, 16% report a diagnosis of PCOS and in the 1973-78 cohort, 9% report this diagnosis. Our study will examine the relationship between the diagnosis of PCOS and a) menstrual irregularity, b) the use of the contraceptive pill and other hormonal contraceptive methods and c) the mental health of women with PCOS.  Currently, we are waiting for progress in another project before commencing this project. |

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| Project ID: A1277 | **The impact of infertility experiences and fertility treatments on women’s emotional well-being and work outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Suzanne Chan-Serafin - University of New South Wales |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Hugh Bainbridge - University of New South Wales * Prof Tammy Allen - University of South Florida * Dr Mandy Fong - University of New South Wales * A/Prof Suzanne Chan-Serafin - University of New South Wales |
| Liaison person: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The ‘invisible’ challenge of infertility affects 1 in 6 Australian couples of reproductive ages. Reproductive age is often the prime of one’s career. Fertility treatments are lengthy and emotionally draining processes in which significant variability in family interference with work and emotional states is expected. This study investigates the work and emotional outcomes for women experiencing infertility and those undergoing fertility treatments over time. The study advances diversity and work-life literature by addressing the temporal aspect of infertility. By gaining a better understanding of the work and emotional impact of infertility on employees, the study will inform organizations on how to better support these employees when developing their diversity and equity human resource practices.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1288 | **The metabolic impact of combined oral contraceptive pills in women with and without polycystic ovary syndrome** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jillian (Chau Thien) Tay - Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Joanne Enticott - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a common hormonal disorder in women which is associated with health complications including diabetes and cardiovascular risk factors. Combined oral contraceptive pills (COCPs) are the first-line pharmacological treatment for women with PCOS as they improve typical PCOS symptoms. Previous research has linked COCPs with increased diabetes risk and worsened cholesterol levels which raised concerns regarding their usage in women with PCOS who are already prone to these disorders. However, research findings regarding COCPs usage on the actual development of diabetes and high cholesterol in women with and without PCOS are inconsistent and deserves further evaluation.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1290 | **Physical activity and sedentary behaviour of mothers and children among culturally and linguistically diverse communities** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Susan Paudel - Institute of Physical Activity and Nutrition, Deakin University |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Kylie Hesketh - School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Deakin University * A/Prof Jenny Veitch - School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Deakin University * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Cultural diversity is increasing in Australia with around one-fifth of the population speaking a language other than English at home. Evidence regarding physical activity and sedentary behaviour of mothers and children of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities and understanding of how different factors interact to shape these behaviours is limited.  This study will examine if the prevalence of physical activity and sedentary behaviour among mothers and children differ by CALD and non-CALD background and identify associated factors. The study outputs will improve our understanding of the physical activity and sedentary behaviour practices of mothers and children from CALD communities and the sociodemographic and home environmental factors shaping these behaviours. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Does the prevalence of overweight/obesity, physical activity and sitting time differ by CALD background? A secondary analysis of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Paudel S, Mishra G, Veitch J & Hesketh K. International Congress on Obesity (ICO) 2022, Paudel S, Mishra G, Veitch J & Hesketh K. 18-22 October 2022.  Physical activity, organised sports and sitting time among mothers of culturally and linguistically diverse background. Paudel S, Mishra G, Veitch J, Mielke G, Hesketh K. Asia-Pacific Society for Physical Activity (ASPA) 2022, Melbourne, VIC, 28-29 November 2022. |

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| Project ID: A1295A | **QLD Women’s Health Strategy - Research on the health needs and health service use of Queensland women and girls** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Prof Vicki Clifton - Mothers and Babies Theme, Mater Medical Research Institute, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Hsiu-Wen Chan - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Hsin-Fang Chung - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Queensland Health is seeking input for their new Queensland Women’s Health Strategy, providing ALSWH with the opportunity to inform the Queensland Government of the key issues in women’s health and health service use, using data from the ALSWH. This report will examine general health, behavioural and lifestyle factors, female reproductive characteristics, chronic conditions, and health service use amongst Queensland women and girls, compared to Australia overall. Additionally, areas of health inequality due to area of residence, education, income management, employment stability, housing, and domestic violence will be identified. |

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| Project ID: A1297 | **Sex differences in the play equipment available at Australian children’s homes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Stephanie Duncombe - The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Different combinations of play equipment are associated with children's physical activity levels. While there is evidence that girls and boys have different activity preferences and choice in games, no studies have investigated whether sex differences exist in the play equipment that children have at home. The aim of this study is to investigate differences between the play equipment that boys and girls have at home. This could be useful for future interventions aimed at increasing children's physical activity levels.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1298 | **Does diet mediate the relationship between sociodemographic factors and cardiovascular and dementia outcomes in Australian women?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Briar McKenzie - The George Institute for Global Health |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Clare Collins - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Prof Mark Woodward - The George Institute for Global Health, UNSW * Prof Jacqui Webster - The George Institute for Global Health, UNSW * Dr Katie Harris - The George Institute for Global Health, UNSW * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Cardiovascular disease (CVD) and dementia are the leading causes of death and disability for Australian women. Poor dietary patterns are an established key risk factor for CVD and are likely a risk factor for dementia. The relationship between sociodemographic factors, poor dietary patterns and CVD and dementia outcomes needs to be assessed to ensure equitable risk reduction. We aim to use the ALSWH data to assess the relationship between socio-demographic equity factors (ethnicity, SES, income, and location of residence) with dietary intake (both as a continuous measure of diet quality and in terms of food group intakes) and CVD (heart disease and stroke) and dementia outcomes. The aim of this study is to identify whether diet mediates the relationship between sociodemographic equity factors and disease outcomes.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1300 | **Health-related quality of life among Australian women cancer survivors** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Md Mijanur Rahman - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Karen Canfell - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * Prof Anne Cust - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * A/Prof Michael David - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * Dr Julia Steinberg - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * Dr Xue Qin Yu - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Karen Charlton - School of Medicine, University of Wollongong * Dr Mumtaz Begum - University of Adelaide * Prof Karen Canfell - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Cancer survivors are a large and growing population worldwide. Optimising their health-related quality of life (HRQOL) has become a major public health goal. A growing number of studies have examined the determinants of HRQOL, but few have focussed on psychosocial determinants such as the role of optimism and social support. Using data from two large cohorts (born 1946-51 and 1921-26) of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health and linked Australian Cancer databases from 1996 to 2019, this study will assess HRQOL among cancer survivors over time, identify the patterns of change, and examine how optimism and social support are associated with HRQOL, adjusting for socio-demographic and behavioural factors, time from diagnosis, and other health conditions.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1303 | **Associations between fertility problems and pregnancy and birth outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jessica Grieger - The University of Adelaide |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Dr Danielle Schoenaker - University of Southampton * Najma Moumin - Adelaide Medical School, The University of Adelaide * Cathryn Tully - The University of Adelaide |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Certain known risk factors influence fertility, including poor diet, polycystic ovary syndrome, increasing maternal age, and increasing BMI. Such factors are also known to be associated with a range of pregnancy complications including gestational diabetes, preeclampsia, and the delivery of an earlier or heavier baby. There are increased risks of obstetric and/or neonatal complications in infertile patients, thus, potentially shared and underlying risk factors that contribute to infertility may also contribute to pregnancy complications and long-term health outcomes of the mother and child. The proposed study will investigate relationships between infertility problems and a range of pregnancy outcomes, taking into account key risk factors for infertility and pregnancy outcomes, such as BMI, diet quality, smoking, and physical activity.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1306A | **Comparison of dietary exposure to ultra-processed foods in omnivore, vegetarian and vegan diets and depressive symptoms in Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Megan Lee - Bond University |
| Other collaborators: | * Talitha Best - Central Queensland University * Prof Lauren Ball - The University of Queensland * Dr Tim Crowe - Thinking Nutrition * Simon Hill - The Proof * Makarand Nadendla - University of Denver * Hayley Walsh - Bond University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | There are over 300 million people in the world who experience the symptoms of depression (World Health Organization, 2017). Research suggests that unhealthy dietary patterns, high in ultra-processed, refined and sugary foods increase the risk of depressive symptoms (Jacka et al., 2017; Parletta et al., 2017). This is particularly pertinent for plant-based dietary followers who have higher prevalence of depression than the general population (Dobersek 2021a, 2021b) and are highly marketed highly processed meat replacement products (Gehring, 2021). To date there is little evidence on the association between ultra-processed meat (omnivore) and plant-based diets (vegetarian and vegan) and depression (Lavalleee et al., 2019). This project aims to compare the association of ultra-processed food consumption and depressive symptoms in omnivore, vegan and vegetarian women in Australia across time.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1309 | **Care transitions among women living with dementia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Mariko Carey - NHMRC Boosting Dementia Research Leadership Fellow, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Michelle Kelly - University of Newcastle * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof John Attia - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Kylie Wales - The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Jennifer White - University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Unplanned moves into hospital or residential aged care can be stressful for people with dementia and their families. Planned transitions to hospital and to residential care may ease pressure on emergency services and assist in maintaining quality of life for people with dementia and their families. This project investigates planned and unplanned transitions to residential aged care and hospital and the factors associated with these.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1313 | **Physical Activity behaviour before and after Diagnosis of Type 2 Diabetes in Australian women: Data from a large population-based cohort study** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Emily Cox - University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. * Prof Mitch Duncan - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Regular physical activity is an effective primary and secondary prevention strategy for people with type 2 diabetes (T2D). However, it is unclear whether people change their daily physical activity after being diagnosed. We aim to identify and compare physical activity trajectories before and after diagnosis of T2D in young- and middle-aged Australian women (born in 1946-51 and 1973-78, respectively). We will also compare the associations between sociodemographic, behavioural and health characteristics with physical activity trajectories in these women. |

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| Project ID: A1314 | **Fibroids in Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Cindy Farquhar - University of Auckland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project aims to better understand fibroids in Australian women. We will investigate prevalence, incidence, characteristics, risk factors, symptoms and treatment pathways. The project will address an important gap in existing evidence with potential implications for clinical practice.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1316 | **Cohort profile updates: Where are we now?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | This project seeks to provide an up-to-date snapshot of the ALSWH cohorts, including comparisons against baseline surveys and the most recent Australian census data. The project will also compare cohorts with respect to key sociodemographic and health behaviours when the participants were the same age, notably between the 1973-78 and 1946-51 cohorts, and for the 1946-51 and 1921-26 cohorts, as well as the 1989-95 and 1973-78 cohorts. Finally, the project will include an up-to-date cohort profile that provides an overview of the ALSWH cohorts for other researchers (similar to previous publications), including a summary of recent major findings for each cohort.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1318 | **Infertility, fertility and pregnancy complications in women with polycystic ovary syndrome** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Maria Forslund - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Jillian (Chau Thien) Tay - Monash University * Dr Johanna Melin - Monash Centre for Health Research & Implementation School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a complex hormonal disorder, affecting one in five women. It is one of the most common causes of infertility.  We now intend to use longitudinal data to explore prevalence, incidence and predictors of infertility, and specially the role of modifiable risk factors, including BMI, for women with and without PCOS when it comes to infertility, infertility treatment and difficulties to conceive. We also intend to study time to first child, and time between children, as this can be a different aspect of difficulties to conceive.  Women with PCOS have an increased prevalence of pregnancy complications, using the long-term follow-up we can study how lifestyle factors and preconception BMI, but also infertility and infertility treatment influence the risk.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1322 | **Asthma exacerbations among childbearing women in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr (Annelies) Annemarie Robijn - University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Vanessa Murphy - The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Asthma is the most common chronic condition among women of childbearing age in Australia.  Up to 45% of pregnant women with asthma experience an asthma exacerbation during pregnancy. Asthma and exacerbations are associated with adverse perinatal and infant health outcomes, such as gestational diabetes, preterm birth and childhood asthma. The purpose of this study is 1) to describe characteristics of pregnant women with asthma in comparison to pregnant women without asthma, 2) to identify and describe exacerbation patterns among pregnant women with asthma and, 3) to predict exacerbation patterns based on characteristics.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1327 | **Survey of women's health in the ACT** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Merri Andrew - Women's Health Matters |
| Other collaborators: | * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Romy Listo - Womens Health Matters |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | This project will use ALSWH data to inform the development of a repeatable survey on the state of women's health and wellbeing in the ACT and conduct an initial wave of research. The findings of the repeatable Women's Health Matters survey will be used to identify gaps, monitor the ACT Wellbeing Framework for women, and advocate for gender responsive services for all ACT women.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1343 | **Competition in aged care and older Australians' health outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Sabrina Lenzen - Centre for the Business and Economics of Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Kieu My (Michelle) Tran - School of Economics, The University of Queensland * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr My Tran - Australia National University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This research project aims to examine the role of competition in aged care on women's health outcomes in Australia. This project will focus on women in general as well as on cognitively vulnerable populations in a sub-analysis. The main emphasis is on home care/home support users. Competition will be measured using a well-established index applied to aged care data from the AIHW and will be related to women's health outcomes. Findings from this project will provide insights and quantitative evidence to support the design of aged care policies that meet the populations' needs.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1353 | **Early menopause and menopausal symptoms in the 1973-78 cohort** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Hsin-Fang Chung - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Chen Liang - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Menopause marks the end of a woman’s reproductive years, and it usually occurs between 45 and 55 years. Previous research showed that around 1 in 10 women experience early menopause (<45 years), and 40%-60% of women report vasomotor symptoms (i.e., any degree of hot flushes and night sweats) during menopause. However, little is known about early menopause and common symptoms experienced by Australian women who are currently in the menopausal transition (mid- to late-40s). Therefore, this study aims to investigate the prevalence of early menopause (natural and induced) and common symptoms and their lifestyle and reproductive predictors among women born in 1973-78.  Analysis is underway. We aim to have the results and manuscript drafted by the end of the year. |

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| Project ID: A1355 | **Social Wellbeing and Connectedness Scale Validation in the context of the 1946-51 ALSWH Cohort** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The Social Wellbeing and Connectedness Scale (Keyes, 1998) was administered for the first time in an ALSWH survey in 2019 in the 9th survey for the 1946-51 cohort. This project aims to describe and validate its use in the ALSWH context.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1357 | **The relationship between tooth loss, diet and cardiovascular disease** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Shalinie King - The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Simone Marschner - Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney * Dr Kaye Brock - University of Northern Texas * Dr Alice Gibson - Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Emerging evidence suggests that tooth loss is associated with an increased risk for heart disease. Tooth loss is also associated with an increased risk for poor diet. In this study we aim to further investigate whether tooth loss increases the risk for heart disease and whether diet quality relates to this association. This analysis will use data from the 1946-1951 cohort of Australian women where tooth loss, diet and heart disease outcomes are collected across time.  Initial exploration of the survey data is ongoing. The data analysis plan for the mediation analysis is being finalised. We are still waiting for data custodian approval to access the CCMS data. This research has not yet been presented at any conferences. |

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| Project ID: A1358 | **How does weight gain affect the probability of pregnancy and risk of key metabolic outcomes in women with PCOS?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Johanna Melin - Monash Centre for Health Research & Implementation School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is one of the most common endocrine and metabolic disorders affecting 8 to 13 % of premenopausal women globally, making it a key public health burden. Once diagnosed, education, multidisciplinary care and lifestyle interventions for prevention or management of excess weight are important.  The aim of this study is to explore the impact of PCOS status and BMI change over time on different pregnancy outcomes and metabolic outcomes.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1359 | **Prevalence of heavy menstrual bleeding, treatments used, and factors associated with treatment use** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Martha Hickey - The University of Melbourne * Dr Tessa Copp - School of Public Health, The University of Sydney * Dr Rachel Thompson - University of Sydney * A/Prof Susan Jordan - The University of Queensland * Dr Bec Jenkinson - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The aims of this project are: 1) to understand the symptom experience of women with heavy menstrual bleeding (HMB) from late adolescence to middle-age, 2) to describe the medical treatments women with HMB are using, and 3) to investigate variations in women's use of medical treatments by their sociodemographic characteristics.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1388 | **Ongoing use of the SF-36 instrument in a longitudinal cohort study: a review and validation study** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The Short Form 36-Item (SF-36) Health Survey has been included in ALSWH since its inception in 1996. The SF-36 is frequently used by ALSWH researchers as both a predictive factor as well as an outcome measure. Due to this extensive use, it is important to ensure that the SF-36 continues to be a reliable, robust measure of its intended constructs. After more than two decades of use in the surveys, it is timely to review the performance and properties of the SF-36 measures across the original cohorts recruited in 1996.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

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| Project ID: A1392 | **Tackling multimorbidity in women across the life course: Building the evidence for improved prevention strategies and care pathways** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Multimorbidity is a challenge for health system. There is limited evidence on how multimorbidity develops over the life course. Our aims are to:  1. Document transitions between cardiometabolic conditions.  2.Investigate the risk factors and time-order of cardiometabolic conditions associated with cumulative incidence of dementia among women.  There are not yet any outcomes (publications, conference presentations etc.) recorded for this project. |

## Completed projects

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| Project ID: A676 | **Use of GP other Medicare and hospital services by people with dementia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Danielle Mazza - Department of General Practice, Monash University * Prof Robert Sanson-Fisher - Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI), The University of Newcastle * Prof Colette Browning - Primary and Allied Health Care, Monash University * Sally O Loughlin – Alzheimers Australia * Dr Jamie Bryant - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Prof Mariko Carey - NHMRC Boosting Dementia Research Leadership Fellow, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Summary: | The General practitioner (GP) is the cornerstone of medical care for people with dementia and central to much of the care for people with dementia. They usually know the person with dementia well, having cared for them for many years, and are often the first clinician to become aware of the person’s concerns about cognitive decline. Subsequent to diagnosis, the ongoing care and medical management of dementia is also principally coordinated and monitored by the GP, in partnership with the person and their family, and with specialist consultation. This study identified use of GP consultations and other services eligible for Medicare rebates by women with dementia, and examined use of these services, and health outcomes for women with dementia. |
| Publications: | Use of medical services by older Australian women with dementia: a longitudinal cohort study. Byles J, Cavenagh D, Bryant J, Mazza D, Browning C, O'Loughlin S & Sanson-Fisher R. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 2021, 45(5); 497-503.  Do health assessments affect time to permanent residential aged care admission for older women with and without dementia? Byles J, Cavenagh D, Bryant J, Carey M, Mazza D, Sanson-Fisher R. Geriatrics & Gerontology International, 2023. |

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| Project ID: A733 | **Exploring the role of being overweight or obese in participation in mammographic breast screening in New South Wales: A validation of self-reported breast screening participation in the ALSWH** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Kate McBride - Western Sydney University | |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Andrew Page - School of Medicine and the Translational Research Institute, Western Sydney University * Sithum Munasinghe - Translational Health Research Institute. Western Sydney University | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Summary: | Biennial mammographic screening is associated with reductions in mortality from breast cancer. Despite availability of screening participation rates in Australia are suboptimal, with cross sectional data showing women with obesity are less likely to screen. Rescreening rates are unknown, nor how weight interacts with other potential screening influencers such as level of education.  We investigated the association between prospective changes in BMI and longitudinal adherence to mammographic screening among overweight/obese women residing in NSW, Australia. This retrospective cohort study was based on women participating in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health with screening participation enumerated via BreastScreen NSW based on individual-level probabilistic record linkage. Mammography screening data was obtained for the period 1996-2016. Data linkage was conducted following strict privacy-preserving protocols with 2,822 participants included in the analysis.  The main outcome was non-adherence to routine breast screening and the main exposure BMI. Marginal structural modelling then adjusted for a series of time-dependent and -independent confounding variables to assess the association between BMI and adherence to routine breast screening.  Participants who were overweight/obese were less likely to adhere to breast screening vs. normal/underweight participants (OR=1.29, [95% CI=1.07, 1.55). Stratified analyses indicated the association between overweight/obesity and non-adherence was stronger among those with lower education (OR=1.38, [95% CI=1.08, 1.75) vs. those with higher education (OR=1.27, [95% CI=0.93, 1.73).  Overweight/obesity is therefore associated with poorer adherence to breast screening, with this association stronger among women with lower education. Intervention to improve screening among women with overweight/obesity and particularly women with lower education is urgently needed to improve screening rates.  A manuscript has been prepared for submission for publication, and this work will also be submitted for presentation at the International Congress of Epidemiology (September 2024, South Africa) and the Public Health Association of Australia Prevention Conference 2024. | |
| Project ID: A760 | | **The effects of vigorous intensity exercise during pregnancy and postpartum on maternal and infant outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Dr Kassia Beetham - School of Exercise Science, Australian Catholic University |
| Other collaborators: | | * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. * Dr Jemima Spathis - School of Exercise Science, Australian Catholic University * Dr Samantha Hoffmann - Centre for Sport Research, School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Deakin University * Prof Vicki Clifton - Mothers and Babies Theme, Mater Medical Research Institute, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | | The role of exercise and patterns of exercise, (particularly vigorous intensity exercise), during pregnancy and postpartum are not well understood. Previous research has indicated the importance of exercise in this population, yet there is little research investigating the relationship between exercise patterns, and maternal and infant outcomes. This study evaluated the rates and intensity of physical activity during pregnancy, and the implications on health and birth outcomes. |
| Publications: | | Longitudinal association of physical activity during pregnancy with maternal and infant outcomes: Findings from the Australian longitudinal study of women's health. Beetham KS, Spathis JG, Hoffmann S, Brown WJ, Clifton V & Mielke GI. Women's Health, 2022, 18; 1-9. |
| Conference / Presentations: | | Longitudinal association between physical activity in pregnancy with maternal and infant outcomes: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Beetham K, Spathis J, Hoffmann S, Brown W, Clifton V & Mielke G. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Beetham K, Spathis J, Hoffmann S, Brown W, Clifton V & Mielke G. 27-28 May 2021. |

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| Project ID: A840 | **Tracking the short-term impacts of COVID-19 on the health and wellbeing of Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Katherine Tuckerman - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Summary: | The impact of COVID-19 on the individual and how this will evolve over time is largely unknown, while the long-term impact of COVID-19 and resultant life changes are also uncharted territory. ALSWH responded by offering an ongoing brief COVID-19 survey to women in the three youngest cohorts, deployed fortnightly over a six-month period during 2020, with follow-up surveys planned for 2021. The purpose of the survey was to ascertain who had experienced COVID-19, who had been tested for COVID-19 (or not), their general health and stress levels, and the impact of COVID-19 on women's lives. This project combined the COVID-19 survey data with main survey data to evaluate the impacts of COVID-19 on health and wellbeing (such as physical health, mental health, health service use, etc), while accounting for factors such as SES, residential area, history of trauma, etc that also influence health and wellbeing. |
| Conference / Presentations: | From April to October: Women’s health and wellbeing during COVID-19. Loxton D. Australasian COVID-19 Conference Loxton D. 8-10 December 2020. |

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| Project ID: A843 | **Plant-based dietary patterns and chronic disease risk in Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jessica Ferguson - The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Manohar Garg - School of Biomedical Sciences & Pharmacy, University of Newcastle * Dr Christopher Oldmeadow - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, Hunter Medical Research Institute * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Plant-based diet (PBD) patterns are gaining societal traction globally, due to ethical and sustainability concern and perceived healthfulness. Recent studies have shown lower risk of chronic diseases in individuals following PBD patterns such as vegetarian or vegan as well as improved management of cardiometabolic risk factors. Since it has been reported that women are more likely to follow PBDs than men, this project investigated the dietary profile and nutritional adequacy of PBDs followed by Australian women including associated health concerns, overall health status and chronic disease risk from a representative sample of middle-aged Australian women. |
| Publications: | Plant-based dietary patterns are associated with lower body weight, BMI and waist circumference in older Australian women. Ferguson JA, Oldmeadow C, Mishra GD & Garg ML. Public Health Nutrition, 2021, 25(1); 18-31. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Plant-based dietary patterns are associated with lower body weight, BMI and waist circumference in older Australian women. Ferguson JA, Oldmeadow C, Mishra G & Garg ML. UON - Sustainable Food Future Conference 2021, Newcastle, NSW, 17-18 June 2021. |

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| Project ID: A848 | **A life course approach to determining the prevalence and impact of sexual violence in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Approximately one in five Australian women have experienced sexual violence, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Personal Safety Survey. The purpose of this research was to take a life course approach to determining the prevalence, and impact of sexual violence among Australian women, by analysing national, longitudinal data. Analyses included disaggregation by sexual identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, disability, and urban/regional/remote area of residence, where the data permitted. |

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| Project ID: A1261 | **Major Report 2022: A focus on health and well-being for women in mid-life** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Megan Ferguson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This report for 2022 aimed to primarily use longitudinal data collected from women in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health to assess factors affecting women’s health in mid-life. While data from all cohorts was presented as an initial overview, data from the 1946-51 and 1973-78 cohorts was primarily used to show what the middle years have been like for women born in the post-war baby boom, and what they might be like for next generation who are now entering mid-life. |
| Publications: | [Health and wellbeing for women in midlife: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health](https://alswh.org.au/post-outcomes/2022-major-report-health-and-wellbeing-of-women-in-midlife/). Mishra G, Barnes I, Byrnes E, Cavenagh D, Dobson A, Forder P, Hockey R, Loxton D, Townsend N & Byles J. Report prepared for the Australian Government Department of Health, May 2022. |

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| Project ID: A1329 | **2023 MAJOR REPORT: COVID and the effects on health care use by Australian women** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Hsiu-Wen Chan - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Natalie Townsend - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Ellise Bonovas - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Sasha Lorien - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Jemma Henderson - Hunter Medical Research Institute, Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Synopsis: | This report examined the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women’s health care use and cost. Health care use before and during the pandemic was compared between specific groups of women based on their sociodemographic characteristics. Women's experiences with their health and health care services during the pandemic were also examined using the fortnightly short surveys undertaken in the first six months of the covid-19 pandemic (April-Oct 2020). these pandemic surveys collected both quantitative and qualitative data, allowing for contextual examination about how women responded to their health care needs during the initial months of the pandemic. | |
| Publications: | | COVID-19 and its impact on health care use: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Mishra G, Dobson A, Tooth L, Chan H-W, Forder P, Townsend N, Egan N, Cavenagh D, Hockey R, Barnes I, Byrnes E & Loxton D. Report prepared for the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care, May 2023. |

# Appendix B: Student projects

## Current Student projects

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| Project ID: A414B | **InterLACE: International collaboration for a life course approach to reproductive health and chronic disease events** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Chen Liang - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Debra Anderson - Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney * Dr Hsin-Fang Chung - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | InterLACE provides a unique opportunity to conduct world-leading research in collaboration with key national and international investigators on women’s health studies from 11 nations. This project undertakes cross-cohort research by combining data at the individual level from more than 800 000 participants in 26 existing longitudinal studies (including ALSWH young & mid-age cohorts) to investigate the role of reproductive health across life on subsequent chronic diseases, especially CVD events and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM). While this poses cross-cohort and cross-cultural research challenges, InterLACE has the capability to address research questions and generate robust evidence that is not possible from any single cohort study. There are 3 publications currently under review by *Diabetes Care*, *Thorax*, and *European Journal of Epidemiology*. |
| Publications: | Vasomotor menopausal symptoms and risk of cardiovascular disease: A pooled analysis of six prospective studies. Zhu D, Chung H-F, Dobson AJ, Pandeya N, Anderson DJ, Kuh D, Hardy R, Brunner EJ, Avis NE, Gold EB, Crawford SL & Mishra GD. American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology, 2020, 223(6); 898.e1 -898.e16.  Type of menopause, age of menopause and variations in the risk of incident cardiovascular disease: Pooled analysis of individual data from 10 international studies. Zhu D, Chung H-F, Dobson AJ, Pandeya N, Brunner EJ, Kuh D, Greenwood DC, Hardy R, Cade JE, Giles GG, Bruinsma F, Demakakos P, Simonsen MK, Sandin S, Weiderpass E & Mishra GD. Human Reproduction, 2020, 35(8); 1933-1943.  Meta-analysis for individual participant data with a continuous exposure: A case study. Darssan D, Mishra G, Greenwood D, Sandin S, Brunner E, Crawford S, ElKhoudary S, Mori Brooks M. Gold E. Kildevaeld Simonsen M, Chung H-S, Weiderpass E & Dobson A. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, 2021, 140; 79-92.  Age at menarche and risk of vasomotor menopausal symptoms: A pooled analysis of six studies. Chung HF, Zhu D, Dobson AJ, Kuh D, Gold EB, Crawford SL, Avis NE, Mitchell ES, Woods NF, Anderson DJ & Mishra GD. BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, 2021, 128(3); 603-13.  The association between reproductive lifespan and incident cardiovascular disease: A pooled analysis of individual patient data from 12 studies. Mishra SR, Chung H-F, Waller M, Dobson J, Greenwood DC, Cade JE, Giles GG, Bruinsma F, Simonsen MK, Hardy R, Kuh D, Gold EB, Crawford SL, Derby CA, Matthews KA, Demakakos P, Lee JS, Mizunuma H, Hayashi K, Sievert LL, Brown DE, Sven Sandin S, Weiderpass E, Mishra GD. JAMA Cardiology, 2020, 5(12); 1410-1418.  Association of the length of oestrogen exposure with risk of incident stroke in postmenopausal women: Insights from a 20-year prospective study. Mishra SR, Waller M, Chung HF & Mishra GD. International Journal of Cardiology, 2021, 328; 206-214.  Association between reproductive lifespan and risk of incident type 2 diabetes and hypertension in postmenopausal women: Findings from a 20-year prospective study. Mishra SR, Waller M, Chung H-F & Mishra GD. Maturitas, 2022, 159; 52-61.  Infertility, recurrent pregnancy loss, and risk of stroke: pooled analysis of individual patient data of 618,851 women. Liang C, Chung H-F, Dobson AJ, Hayashi K, van der Schouw YT, Kuh D, Hardy R, Derby CA, El Khoudary SR, Janssen I, Sandin S, Weiderpass E & Mishra GD. BMJ, 2022, 377; e070603.  Is there a link between infertility, miscarriage, stillbirth, and premature or early menopause? Results from pooled analyses of nine cohort studies. Liang C, Chung HF, Dobson AJ, Cade JE, Greenwood DC, Hayashi K, Hardy R, Kuh D, van der Schouw YT, Sandin S, Weiderpass E, Mishra GD. American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 2023, 229(1); 47.e1-e9. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Early menstruation and risk of vasomotor symptoms: A pooled analysis of six studies (poster presentation). Chung H-F & Mishra G. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Chung H-F & Mishra G. 27-28 May 2021.  Smoking, body mass index, and risk of vasomotor symptoms: A pooled analysis of eight studies (oral presentation).  Chung H-F, Anderson D, Mishra D. World Congress of Epidemiology, 2021. Virtual, 3-6 September 2021.  Global issues in women’s cardiovascular health: Results from InterLACE consortium. Mishra G. Annual Scientific meeting of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CZANZ), Gold Coast, QLD, 12 August 2022. |

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| Project ID: A444A | **Hospital use of women 85+** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Befikadu Wubishet - The University of Queensland * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Hal Kendig - Centre for Research on Ageing, Health & Wellbeing, Australian National University * Mitiku Teshome Hambisa - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | More women than ever are living past the age of 85 in Australia, but little is known about the nature of their hospital service use, hospital experience and hospital outcomes. Increasing age alone is a risk factor for hospitalisation and less optimal outcomes, but other factors such as demographics and comorbidities also contribute to these experiences. As the aging population places increased demand on health services and resources, the importance of understanding the details of their hospital use is paramount. This project investigates reasons for hospital admission and how age, demographics and comorbidities may influence the risks of hospitalisation, hospital use and hospital outcomes among older women. |
| Publications: | Rehabilitation and convalescent hospital stay in New South Wales: An analysis of 3,979 women aged 75+. Chojenta C, Byles J & Nair BK. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 2018, 42(2); 195-199.  First incident hospitalisation for Australian women aged 70 and beyond: A 10-year examination using competing risks. Harris ML, Dolja-Gore X, Kendig H & Byles JE. Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics, 2016, 64; 29-37.  End of life hospitalisations differ for older Australian women according to death trajectory: A longitudinal data linkage study. Harris ML, Dolja-Gore X, Kendig H, Byles JE. BMC Health Services, 2016, 16(484); 1-12.  Patterns of hospitalization risk for women surviving into very old age: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Dolja-Gore X, Harris M, Kendig H & Byles JE. Medical Care, 2017, 55(4); 352-361. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Determinants of overnight hospital admissions for Australians aged 85+ in their last year of life. Dolja-Gore X, Harris ML, Kendig H & Byles J. 12th Annual 45 and Up Study Collaborator’s Meeting, Sydney, NSW, 12 November 2015.  Balancing health care use over later life: A longitudinal study of ageing, health and health service use by 12432 Australian women over 19 years. Byles J. 10th IAGG (International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics) Asia/Oceania 2015, Chiang Mai, Thailand 19 - 22 October 2015. |

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| Project ID: A476 | **A qualitative analysis of attributes toward healthy cognitive ageing in the 1921-26 cohort** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Cynthia Forlini - School of Medicine, Deakin University |
| Other collaborators: | * Valerie Carter |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project focuses on women’s attitudes toward cognitive wellness (also referred to as brain health, mental sharpness) later in life. Given current public health messages to maintain cognitive wellness as a part of productive ageing, we are interested in the perspectives of women in the 1921-26 cohort. We will examine how these women define cognitive wellness and how they have (or not) maintained cognitive wellness as they aged. These data will shed light on the perspective of older individuals particularly on the importance they ascribe to maintaining cognitive wellness and the challenges that they may face. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Are older Australian women following recommendations for healthy cognitive ageing? Carter V, Lucke J & Forlini C. Emerging Health Policy Research Conference 2017. Menzies Centre for Health Policy, Sydney, NSW, 27 July 2017.  Are older Australians following recommendations for healthy cognitive ageing? Evidence from the 1921-26 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Womens Health. Forlini C, Carter V & Lucke J. International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting. Washington D.C, USA, 10 November 2017.  Ageing in a “neuro-society”. Forlini C. Neuroscience & Society: Ethical, Legal & Clinical Implications of Neuroscience Research Sydney, NSW, 14-15 September 2017. |

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| Project ID: A492C | **The experience of breastfeeding for women with chronic health conditions** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Annie Smith - The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Karen Mate - School of Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy (Human Physiology), The University of Newcastle * Dr Befikadu Wubishet - The University of Queensland * Shannon Boschuetz - The University of Newcastle * Janelle Murphy - The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Characterised by long-term development and persistent symptomatology, chronic conditions impact on healthcare expenditure and burden of disease. Women with chronic conditions may require specialised care and advice during postpartum to ensure optimal health for mother and baby. Existing evidence suggests that women with chronic conditions are less likely to breastfeed, although there is increasing evidence that breastfeeding is generally optimal for women with chronic conditions and their infants. Despite this, there are no specific guidelines to direct clinicians and patients in these situations. This project aims to examine breastfeeding initiation and duration among women with chronic conditions. |

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| Project ID: A505B | **Dietary iron and haem iron intakes among women of reproductive age from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle | |
| Other collaborators: | * Leona Phillips - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Amanda Patterson - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Ellie D’Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health * A/Prof Liz Holliday - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, The University of Newcastle * Simon Chiu - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Prof Anthony Perkins - Griffith University * Elle McKenna - Griffith University * Shanna Fealy - School of Nursing, Midwifery, and Indigenous Health, Charles Sturt University * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Joshua Dizon - CReDITSS, Hunter Medical Research Institute * Leona Phillips - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Synopsis: | Iron is an essential transitional metal and micronutrient; however, deficient and excess levels are associated with adverse outcomes. During pregnancy iron deficiency is associated with preterm birth and low birth weight and elevated iron stores with increased risk of gestational diabetes and preeclampsia. This record-linkage study uses a longitudinal survey to assess low and high levels of dietary iron and haem iron intakes and risk of adverse pregnancy and birth outcomes. We will examine dietary intakes from the 1973-78 ALSWH cohort in 2003 and 2009 and obstetric data from the ALSWH surveys and linked Perinatal Data Collection and Admitted Patients Data Collection in NSW, QLD, WA and ACT. | |
| Project ID: A644 | | **Health and wellbeing among older Australian women before and after cataract surgery** |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | | * Mitiku Teshome Hambisa - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Dinberu Shebeshi - The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | | This project aims to look at how many mid-aged women and older women have reported cataract and cataract surgery and cross-check this (where possible) against hospital and Medicare records, The investigators also plan to examine the health and wellbeing of women prior to reporting cataract surgery and how this may change before and after cataract surgery. The investigators are particularly interested in how cataracts (and cataract surgery) may influence women’s continued ability to drive. |
| Publications: | | Predictors of driving among older Australian women from 2002 to 2011: A longitudinal analysis of Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health based on the World Health Organization’s Healthy Ageing Framework. Hambisa MT, Dolja-Gore X & Byles JE. Journal of Transport & Health, 2021, 22; 101116.  Determinants of driving among oldest-old Australian women. Hambisa MT, Dolja-Gore X & Byles J. Journal of Women and Aging, 2022, 34(3); 351-371.  Application of Andersen-Newman model to assess cataract surgery uptake among older Australian women: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH). Hambisa MT, Dolja-Gore X & Byles J. Aging Clinical and Experimental Research, 2022, 34(7); 1673-1685. |
| Conference / Presentations: | | 6 Predictors of driving among oldest-old Australian women based on World Health Organization approach to Healthy Ageing. Hambisa M 53rd AAG Conference, Hambisa M 18-20 November 2020.  Application of Andersen-Newman model to assess cataract surgery uptake among older Australian women: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH). Hambisa M. Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) Hunter Region Annual Scientific Meeting, Newcastle, NSW 6 June 2022. |

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| Project ID: A677 | **Health care utilisation and health economics of diabetes among Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Befikadu Wubishet - The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Carol Jagger - Institute of Ageing and Health, Newcastle University * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Md Mijanur Rahman - The Daffodil Centre, University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW * Dr Shamasunder Acharya - The University of Newcastle * Danielle Lang - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Diabetes is one of the primary chronic conditions contributing to morbidity, mortality and economic burden in Australia. More accurate information on health care utilization patterns and associated costs in the whole spectrum of the diabetic population as well as specific groups such as patients at their end of life is important for future planning of healthcare services, particularly as diabetes incidence continues to rise. In addition, information on clinical practice-based cost effectiveness of antidiabetic medications aids decision-making and resource use optimization for diabetes patients. The project, primarily, aims to assess health care utilization of women with and without diabetes and the incremental costs incurred by the government and patients (out-of-pocket) due to diabetes and its complications. ALSWH self-reported data will be linked to administrative databases (Medicare Benefits Scheme, Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule, hospital data and national death index). |
| Publications: | Predictors of 15-year survival among Australian women with diabetes from age 7-81. Wubishet BL, Harris ML, Forder PM, Acharya SH & Byles JE. Diabetes Researchand Clinical Practice, 2019, 150; 48-56.  Impact of diabetes on life and healthy life expectancy among older women. Wubishet BL, Byles JE, Harris ML & Jagger C. The Journals of Gerontology: Medical Sciences, 2021, 76(5); 914-921.  Age and cohort rise in diabetes prevalence among older Australian women: case ascertainment using survey and healthcare administrative data. Wubishet BL, Harris ML, Forder PM & Byles JE. PLOS One, 2020, 15(6); e0234812. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Rising diabetes prevalence among older Australian women. Wubishet B, Harris M, Lang D, Acharya S, & Byles J. 51st Australian Association of Gerontology Conference, Melbourne, Vic, 21 - 23 November 2018.  Rising diabetes prevalence among older Australian women. Wubishet B, Harris M, Lang D, Acharya S, & Byles J. Emerging Health Policy Research Conference, Menzies Centre for Health Policy, Sydney, NSW, 26 July 2018.  Costs of Major Complications of Type 2 Diabetes: A Systematic Review. Wubishet B L, Harris M, Abbas SS, Lang D, Acharya S, & Byles J. 16th National Conference of Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA 2017), Perth, WA, 6-7 November 2017.  End of life health care costs among older Australian women with Diabetes. Wubishet B, Harris M, Lang D, Acharya S, & Byles J. Annual Colloquium at Australia’s Premier Digital Health, Health Informatics and E-Health Conference, Sydney, NSW, July 2018.  Impact of Diabetes on Life and Healthy Life Expectancy among Older Women. Wubishet BL, Byles JE, Harris ML & Jagger C. 18th National Conference of Emerging Researchers in Ageing, Sydney, NSW, 4-5 November 2019. |

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| Project ID: A685 | **Using epidemiological evidence to aid tailored joint decision making in areas of clinical uncertainty in the management of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in later life** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Shazia Abbas - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Tazeen Majeed - School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle * Dr Natasha Weaver - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The project aims to develop a decision-making tool to quantitatively assess the probabilities of all outcomes associated with atrial fibrillation; integrating patient profile and patient preferences for each outcome to help clinicians and patients make informed decisions in choosing the anticoagulant regimens/treatment to the balance the risk of stroke, bleeding and death in patients with atrial fibrillation. |
| Publications: | Patterns of medications for atrial fibrillation among older women: results from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Abbas SS, Majeed T, Nair BR, Forder P, Weaver N & Byles J. Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Therapeutic, 2020, 26(1); 59-66.  Burden of atrial fibrillation and stroke risk among octagenarian and nonagenarian women in Australia. Abbas SS, Majeed T, Nair K, Forder P, Weaver N & Byles J. Annals of Epidemiology, 2020, 44; 31-37,e2.  Utility estimations of health states of older Australian women with atrial fibrillation using SF-6D. Abbas SS, Majeed T, Weaver N, Nair BR, Forder PM, Byles JE. . Quality of Life Research, 2021, 30(5); 1457-1466. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Using Epidemiological evidence to aid tailored joint decision making in areas of Clinical uncertainty in the management of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in later life. Abbas S. 16th National Conference of Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA 2017), Perth, WA, 6-7 November 2017.  Use of medications for Atrial Fibrillation among Australian women. Abbbas SS. 51st Australian Association of Gerontology Conference, Melbourne, Vic, 21 - 23 November 2018.  Matters of the Heart - Medications for Atrial Fibrillation. Abbas SS. The Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) 6th Annual Newcastle Satellite Scientific Meeting, Newcastle, NSW, 3 June 2019. |

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| Project ID: A687 | **Investigating the association between depressive symptoms and hypertension in the young ALSWH cohort** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Regina Prigge - The University of Edinburgh |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Caroline Jackson - School of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences, The University of Edinburgh * Prof Sarah Wild - The University of Edinburgh |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Depression might lead to an increased risk of hypertension. However, findings of published studies are conflicting and many have methodological limitations. We aim to investigate the association between time-varying depressive symptoms and hypertension among the young ALSWH cohort, to assess whether the association varies by distinct depressive symptom subgroups, and to investigate factors that might mediate this increased risk. For example, a previous study using the mid-aged ALSWH cohort found that depressive symptoms were associated with increased risk of hypertension. This association markedly attenuated following adjustment for body mass index (BMI), suggesting that BMI may confound and/or mediate the association. |
| Project ID: A689 | **Supplement intake for women of reproductive age (preconception or pregnant) from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Ellie D’Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health |
| Other collaborators: | * Elle McKenna - Griffith University * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Lucy Leigh - Hunter Medical Research Institute * Prof Anthony Perkins - Griffith University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | During pregnancy, there is an increased requirement for specific micronutrients to support foetal growth and development as well as maternal metabolism. Suboptimal nutrition during this time, may lead to impaired foetal growth and an increased risk of adverse outcomes. The proposed project seeks to evaluate and explore the trends in nutrient supplement intake in women of reproductive age, across their childbearing years and assess the benefits and harms on pregnancy and birth outcomes. The project will use self-reported medication data from the 1973-78 ALSWH cohort, reported over three surveys in 2009 (Survey 5), 2012 (Survey 6) and 2015 (Survey 7). Women will be classified as preconception, pregnant or not pregnant at each time point. |
| Publications: | Dietary supplement use during preconception: The Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. McKenna E, Hure J, Perkins A, Gresham E. Nutrients, 2017, 9(10); E1119. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Dietary supplement use during preconception and pregnancy: the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. McKenna E. 10th Asia Pacific Conference on Clinical Nutrition, Adelaide, SA, 26-29 November 2017. |

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| Project ID: A692A | **Mental health and bone quality in Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Mark McEvoy - La Trobe Rural Health School, La Trobe University |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Abhijit Chowdhury - Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, The University of Newcastle * Dr Tazeen Majeed - School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle * A/Prof Liz Holliday - Clinical Research Design, Information Technology and Statistical Support (CReDITSS) Unit, The University of Newcastle * Dr Abhijit Chowdhury - Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The project will explore the impact of depression and/or anxiety on new-onset osteoporosis and low-trauma fractures among older and mid-aged Australian women over 20 years. Epidemiological studies showed a higher risk of osteoporosis and low-trauma fractures in people with depression and/or anxiety than people without depression and/or anxiety. But the causal and temporal associations between these factors are yet to be established. Alongside the ALSWH 1921-26 and 1946-51 birth cohorts' survey data, this project will use linked data for a better understanding of these relationships. |
| Project ID: A695 | **A longitudinal investigation of the somatisation construct in a nationally representative sample of younger women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Anastasia Ejova - School of Psychology, The University of Adelaide |
| Other collaborators: | * Amy Beth Myles - University of Adelaide * Dr Natasha Koloski - Office PVC - Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Nicholas Talley - Faculty of Health, The University of Newcastle * Prof Mike Jones - Psychology Department, Macquarie University * Dr Alissa Beath - Macquarie University * Prof Marjorie Walker - Hunter Medical Research Institute, The University of Newcastle * Prof Rachel Roberts - University of Adelaide |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Somatisation is classically thought of as the physical expression of psychological distress, yet it is typically measured without reference to distress. Instead, it is measured in terms of whether one is bothered ‘a lot’ as opposed to ‘a little’ or ‘not at all’ by each of a set of somatic symptoms (stomach pain, back pain, chest pain, etc.) In assessing somatic-symptom severity on a similar scale at each time point, while also assessing a host of psychological and health indicators, the ALSWH enables the investigation of whether, over time, psychosocial factors do predict somatic-symptom severity over and above health-related factors (e.g., whether one suffers from a serious health condition). |
| Conference / Presentations: | Strong evidence somatization measures based on symptom checklists are more reflective of psychological rather than physical health: Important consequences for gastroenterology research and practice (poster). Jones MP. United European Gastroenterology Week Conference, Vienna, Austria, 21 October 2018. |

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| Project ID: A699 | **Using geocoded data to assign environmental exposures** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Luke Knibbs - School of Public Health, The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Tafzila Akter Mouly - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | People's exposure to adverse environmental hazards like air pollution and noise is highly dependent on where they live. This is also true for exposures that may be beneficial, like green spaces. This project will use geocoded data from the ALSWH and MatCH studies (i.e., latitude and longitude of each residential address) to develop an exposure database that will then be available to ALSWH researchers to assess the associations between environmental exposures and health outcomes in these cohorts. |
| Publications: | Residential greenspace and anxiety symptoms among Australian women living in major cities: A longitudinal analysis. 'Mouly TA, Mishra GD, Hystad P, Nieuwenhuijsen M & Knibbs L. Environment International, 2023. |
| Project ID: A721 | **What can time allocation tell us about cancer recovery?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Ni Gao - Health Economics Research Unit, University of Aberdeen |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Mandy Ryan - Health Economic Research Unit, University of Aberdeen * Dr Nicolas Krucien - Health Economic Research Unit, University of Aberdeen * Dr Richard Norman - School of Public Health, Curtin University * Dr Suzanne Robinson - School of Public Health, Curtin University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Return to work is considered as a main indicator of cancer recovery. This approach omits that women are main contributors of unpaid work, and they may engage in leisure which is crucial in the recovery journey. Moreover, return to work is considered at a single time point, leaving employment trajectories unknown. To provide a comprehensive picture of cancer recovery, this study will use time allocation to link paid work, unpaid work and leisure activities. The study will investigate: (i) time allocation across paid work, unpaid work and leisure activities after cancer treatment; (ii) how time allocation impacts health service usage; and iii) dynamic changes in employment after cancer treatment. |
| Publications: | Paid work, household work, or leisure? Time allocation pathways among women following a cancer diagnosis. Gao N, Ryan M, Krucien N, Robinson S & Norman R. Social Science & Medicine, 2020, 246; 112776. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Work or leisure: do time use patterns impact wellbeing among women living with a breast cancer diagnosis? Gao N, Ryan M, Harris M, Krucien N, Norman R & Robinson, S. 41st International Association for Time Use Research Conference Washington DC, United State July 2019. |

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| Project ID: A731 | **Patterns in long term weight change and the incidence of adverse urogynaecological health issues in middle aged Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Gabrielle Menolotto - University of Southern Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland * Dr Enamul Kabir - University of Southern Queensland * Dr Rachel King - University of Southern Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Wendy Brown - School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project explores the relationship between long-term weight change and the incidence of urogynaecological health issues in middle aged Australian women. Obesity is a risk factor for adverse urogynaecological conditions including forms of urinary incontinence, urinary tract infection, genital prolapse, menstrual irregularity and more. In severe cases, surgical interventions are undertaken. Surgical alternatives include weight loss interventions, however research into long-term weight change remains underexplored. Middle age is a time of hormonal change for many women and by using this cohort we will explore the association between prolonged weight change and the incidence of urogynaecological symptoms, urogynaecological surgeries and menopause. |
| Project ID: A743 | **Adverse pregnancy outcomes among women in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Habtamu Bizuayehu - The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Adverse pregnancy outcomes have been associated with various socio-demographic factors, life events, and health conditions, such as hypertension, diabetes, and asthma. About a quarter (25.8%) of pregnancies in Australia end with any adverse pregnancy outcomes, including preterm birth (8.7%), low birth weight (6.5%), caesarean section (33%), labour induction (29%), and instrumental delivery (11% - 12%), and macrosomia (9.1% in gestational diabetic and 11.9% non-diabetic pregnancies). This study will generate evidence about the occurrence, recurrence, trajectory and geospatial distribution of adverse pregnancy outcomes among women in Australia. This study will assist with resource planning, clinical decision making, explaining geographic distribution and momentum/course of adverse pregnancy outcomes during the reproductively active years. |
| Publications: | Low birth weight and its associated biopsychosocial factors over a 19-year period: findings from a national cohort study. Bizuayehu HM, Harris ML, Chojenta C, Forder PM & Loxton D. European Journal of Public Health, 2021, 31(4); 776-783.  Biopsychosocial factors influencing the occurrence and recurrence of preterm singleton births among Australian women: A prospective cohort study. Bizuayehu HM, Harris ML, Chojenta C, Forder PM & Loxton D. Midwifery, 2022, 110(1).  Patterns of Labour Interventions and Associated Maternal Biopsychosocial Factors in Australia: A Path Analysis. Bizuayehu HM, Harris ML, Chojenta C, Cavenagh D, Forder PM & Loxton D. Reproductive Sciences, 2023. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Preterm birth and its biopsychosocial predictors: A national prospective cohort study in Australia. Bizuayehu HM, Harris ML, Chojenta C, Forder PM & Loxton D. Australian Public Health Conference 2020, Virtual Conference, 19-30 October 2020.  Low birth weight rate and predictors: A prospective study using the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Bizuayehu HM, Harris ML, Chojenta C, Forder PM & Loxton D Center for African Research, Engagement and Partnerships (CARE-P) and African Postgraduate Student Association (APSA) Conference, Online, 16 October 2020. |

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| Project ID: A751B | **The association of dietary factors with inflammation and infertility in women with and without polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Lisa Moran - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Simon Alesi - Monash University * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Prof James Hebert - Cancer Prevention and Control Program, University of South Carolina * Dr Nitin Shivappa - University of South Carolina * Dr Jessica Grieger - The University of Adelaide * Dr Cate Bailey - Monash Centre for Health, Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Aya Mousa - Monash University * Amreen Naqash - University of Kashmir * Simon Alesi - Monash University * Dr Joanne Enticott - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Polycystic ovary syndrome is a condition affecting up to 1 in 5 reproductive-aged women associated with reproductive, metabolic and psychological complications. Inflammation is proposed as one of the aetiological factors associated with PCOS and conditions associated with increased inflammation such as infertility which is more prevalent in women with PCOS. Different foods are understood to modify inflammation so that better quality diets or diets higher in fruit and vegetables tend to be anti-inflammatory and subsequently improve spontaneous fertility outcomes and outcomes of assisted reproductive technologies (ART).  However, the contribution of dietary quality to conditions associated with inflammation in PCOS has not been well-elucidated. The proposed study will investigate whether dietary quality is associated with infertility in women with and without PCOS. |
| Project ID: A762A | **Healthy mother, sustainable nation: A study into the factors averting poor perinatal mental health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Melissa Sherrel Pereira - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Nicole Reilly - University of Wollongong * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Occurrence of depression and anxiety in the perinatal period have devastating consequences on the mother, child and the immediate family. This project will investigate the preventative factors associated with poor perinatal mental health in women with a history of depression and anxiety. This project involves data linkage where data from the Medicare Benefit Schedule will be utilized to analyze access to therapy prior to and during the perinatal period. Other known risk factors for poor mental health will be controlled for in the analyses. |
| Project ID: A766 | **Trends and costs in health service use related to alcohol use and behavioural risk factors among pregnant women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Aurelia King - The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Penny Reeves - Hunter Medical Research Institute, The University of Newcastle * Dr Julie Depczynski - The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Unhealthy behaviours during pregnancy are the risk factors that contribute to the burden of possible adverse events for women and their babies. In order to reduce these possible outcomes from happening a focus should be placed on the dissemination of the factors that contribute to alcohol use for women during pregnancy. Our project will examine the financial burden on the health care system and the health of the mother and baby when exposed to differing levels of alcohol use through pregnancy. |
| Project ID: A767 | **Minority stress, and access to health care for non- heterosexual women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Meredith Burgess - Institute for Social Science Research, University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Francisco Perales - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland * Prof Janeen Baxter - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland * Prof Lisa McDaid - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project explores how being a lesbian, bisexual, or other sexual minority woman impacts your access to healthcare in Australia. We know that sexual minority women in Australia have worse mental and physical health compared to heterosexual women, and this is often linked to the stigma and discrimination experienced by sexual minorities. In this study we ask: to what extent is this health disparity explained by poorer access to healthcare? |
| Project ID: A770A | **Believe me I am awake: Language, dementia, and abuse among older women, and opportunities for abuse detection** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Stephanie Lithgow - The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Kim Colyvas - School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences, University of Newcastle * Dr Elizabeth Spencer - School of Humanities & Social Sciences, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Study 1: **‘Believe me I am awake’: Dementia and the propositional density of written language among older women in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH)**. Women living with dementia can be supposed to have lost capacity to control life choices: living arrangements, activities, medical treatments, and management of assets. With an increasing focus on abuse of the human rights of older people, suggested protective solutions include capacity assessment and documented planning for future decisions. This study examines the written language of older women 1) with no dementia, 2) with a confirmed diagnosis of dementia and 3) with dementia diagnosed within 3 years (lagged diagnosis) via external linked data, using propositional density (a linguistic measure) as a marker of cognitive decline. Propositional density has been identified as a measure sensitive to cognitive decline in other studies of older age. This new knowledge is clinically useful, and may lead to a new direction in the development of more sensitive capacity assessment tools and earlier detection of dementia, which will allow for proactive medical intervention as well as life planning.  Study 2: **The terminology of elder abuse among older Australian women, living with and without dementia.** Accurate detection is fundamental to addressing elder abuse. Globally, women have a higher likelihood of experiencing elder abuse than men, and are more likely to report it, but they may not use direct terminology like ‘abuse’. Dementia, a risk factor for abuse, may further inhibit women from overtly reporting. This study will qualitatively examine the terminology of abuse among older women, including those living with dementia, from written comments in the ALSWH. It will also examine their responses on survey items relating to abuse and vulnerability to abuse. Findings will contribute to the evaluation of current methods of elder abuse detection for older women living with and without dementia, and inform possible education programs for health professionals and others working with older women. |
| Conference / Presentations: | The terminology of abuse among older Australian women from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Lithgow S. National Elder Abuse Conference, Lithgow S. 14-15 February 2022. |
| Project ID: A772 | **Patterns of long-term antidepressant use** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Maria Donald - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Edgar Poon - School of Pharmacy, The University of Queensland * Dr Samantha Hollingworth - School of Pharmacy, The University of Queensland * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Prof Mieke van Driel - The University of Queensland * Dr Johanna Lynch - The University of Queensland * Dr Zaimin Wang - Faculty of Medicine, the University of Queensland * Dr Treasure McGuire - School of Pharmacy, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Antidepressants are an effective treatment for acute major depressive disorders but they are often also used for mild or moderate depression for which evidence of effectiveness is lacking. An emerging body of research suggests that treatment discontinuation be considered for some long-term users of antidepressants, especially those with mild to moderate depression treated in the community. Australia has the second highest antidepressant prescribing rate in the world and the average duration of treatment is considerably longer than the guideline-recommended six to twelve months. This suggests that attempts to cease antidepressants for a number of patients are either not occurring as frequently as guidance recommends, and/or attempts are unsuccessful. Our study aims to better understand the patterns of long-term antidepressant use. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Prevalence and patterns of long-term antidepressant use in older female Australians. Poon E. Medicines Management 2022, the 46th SHPA National Conference, Brisbane, QLD, 1-3 December 2022.  Prevalence and patterns of long-term antidepressant use in older Australian women. Poon E, Donald M, van Driel M, Pache D, Dolja-Gore X, Hollingworth S & McGuire T. FIP Brisbane 2023, Brisbane, QLD, 24-28 September 2023. |

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| Project ID: A774A | **The impact of maternal adverse childhood experiences and violence in adulthood on women’s health, parenting, and child outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Tahir Ahmed Hassen - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Nicole Reilly - University of Wollongong * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Isabelle Barnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Ben Mathews - Queensland University of Technology |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Research has shown that intimate partner violence adversely impacts on the physical and mental health of women over the life course and can have deleterious effects on outcomes for children exposed to this violence. Studies have also demonstrated a generational effect on offspring of mothers who experienced adverse childhood experiences (ACES) while growing up. This project will align these fields of research by examining the potential cumulative impact of maternal exposure to adverse childhood experiences and violence across the life course on outcomes for women in the 1973-1978 cohort and their children. |
| Project ID: A783 | **Effect of medication reviews on patient and health outcomes among older women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Kaeshaelya Thiruchelvam - The University of Newcastle * Dr Syed Hasan - University of Huddersfield * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Therese Kairuz - The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | In Australia, the Residential Medication Management Review (RMMR) is provided for people in aged care facilities, and the Domiciliary Medication Management Review (DMMR) is provided for community-dwelling older people. These services are remunerated by the Australian government and have been shown to improve medication use and patient-reported and health outcomes. This study seeks to determine medication use, and the uptake and impact of medication reviews among women of the ALSWH cohort of 1921-1926, and how they relate to overall medication use, particularly the use of inappropriate medications |
| Publications: | Common combinations of medications used among oldest-old women: A population-based study over 15 years. Thiruchelvan K, Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N, Cavenagh D & Kairuz T. Aging Clinical and Experimental Research, 2020, 33; 1919-1928.  Home Medicines Review and frailty among community-dwelling older women. Thiruchelvam K, Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N & Kairuz T. International Journal of Pharmacy Practice, 2021, 29(6); 548-555.  Frailty and potentially inappropriate medications using the 2019 Beers Criteria: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH). Thiruchelvam K, Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N, Kairuz T. Aging Clinical and Experimental Research, 2021, 33(9); 2499-2509.  Impact of medication reviews on potentially inappropriate medications and associated costs among older women in aged care. Thiruchelvam K, Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N & Kairuz T. Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy, 2022, 18(10); 3758-3765.  Prevalence and association of continuous polypharmacy and frailty among older women: A longitudinal analysis over 15 years. Thiruchelvam K; Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N & Kairuz T. Maturitas, 2021, 146; 18-25.  Common combinations of medications used among oldest-old women: A population-based study over 15 years. Thiruchelvam K, Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N, Cavenagh D & Kairuz T. Aging Clinical and Experimental Research, 2021, 33(7); 1919-1928.  Residential Medication Management Reviews and continuous polypharmacy among older Australian women. 'Thiruchelvam K, Byles J, Hasan SS, Egan N & Kairuz T. International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy, 2021, 43(6); 1619-1629. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Uptake of medication reviews among older women in the ALSWH (poster presentation). Thiruchelvam K, Hasan SS, Wong PS, Byles J & Kairuz T. 52nd AAG Conference, Sydney, NSW, 5-8 November 2019. |

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| Project ID: A796 | **Dental health in Australia - assessing the participatory, utilisation and health outcomes of the Chronic Disease Dental Scheme** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Jane Hall - Centre for Health Economic Research and Evaluation, University of Technology Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Siobhan Dickinson - Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, University of Technology Sydney * Prof Kees Van Gool - Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, University of Technology Sydney * Dr Maryam Naghsh Nejad - Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, University of Technology Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | With calls to expand Medicare to include dental services and the noted fiscal costs associated with such an expansion, it is important to understand what the outcomes might be. The addition of the Chronic Disease Dental Scheme (CDDS) on Medicare between 2007 and 2013 represented an expansion of public health insurance to cover dental services for those with a chronic disease. This study will seek to identify the drivers of program participation and whether the CDDS increased the utilisation of dental services for the intended population. This study is important to informing future policy in relation to any proposed universal dental health scheme. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Did the Chronic Disease Dental Scheme increase dental utilisation for the target population? Dickinson S. 12th Health Services Research Conference, Dickinson S. 30 November - 02 December 2022. |

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| Project ID: A799A | **Pregnancy planning and risk of adverse pregnancy and birth outcomes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Danielle Schoenaker - University of Southampton |
| Other collaborators: | * Julia Dixon - University of Wollongong * Dr Amie Steel - Health Services Research, University of Technology Sydney * Dr Ellie D’Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health * Dr Elizabeth Neale - University of Wollongong |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Preconception care addresses health and lifestyle behaviours of women prior to pregnancy, and is increasingly recognised as an essential health service to achieve healthy outcomes for women and their children. While previous studies have shown that better health and lifestyle prior to pregnancy are associated with better health outcomes during and after pregnancy, there remain gaps in our knowledge on the benefits and implementation of preconception care. To better inform the design of future preconception interventions, this study aims to examine the proportion of women planning a pregnancy, their preconception health and lifestyle behaviours, and the relationships of these with subsequent pregnancy and birth outcomes. |
| Conference / Presentations: | How do women with overweight and obesity prepare for pregnancy? Schoenaker D and Steel A. Event co-hosted by the World Health Organisation and the International Council of Women and the Communications Coordination Committee for the United Nations: Advancing Women's Health and Well-Being: Focus on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), UN Headquarters. Schoenaker D and Steel A. 12 March 2020. |

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| Project ID: A806 | **The role of healthy and unhealthy dietary patterns on depression in Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Megan Lee - Bond University |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Dr Joanne Bradbury - Southern Cross University * A/Prof Jacqui Yoxall - Southern Cross University * A/Prof Sally Sargeant - Southern Cross University * Dr Alison Bowling - Southern Cross University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The role of nutrition in chronic lifestyle diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes is well known. However, the role of nutrition in mental health is lesser known. In Australia, over 3 million people live with the symptoms of depression, with more women experiencing symptoms than men. Research suggests that dietary patterns rich in fresh fruit, vegetables, wholegrains, nuts, seeds, legumes, lean meat and water may protect against depressive symptoms and that dietary patterns high in processed, refined and sugary foods could contribute to the symptoms of depression. This project aims to examine the relationship between Australian women's dietary patterns and depression. |
| Publications: | Is dietary quality associated with depression? An analysis of the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women’s Health data. Lee M, Bradbury J, Yoxall J & Sargeant S. British Journal of Nutrition, 2022, 129(8); 1380 - 1387.  A longitudinal analysis of Australian women's fruit and vegetable consumption and depressive symptoms. Lee M, Bradbury J, Yoxall J & Sargeant S. British Journal of Health Psychology, 2023; 1-15. |
| Project ID: A807 | **Trajectories of psychological wellbeing in women with endometriosis** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Kerry Sherman - Macquarie University |
| Other collaborators: | * Carla Sullivan-Myers - Macquarie University * Dr Alissa Beath - Macquarie University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Despite a recent rapid increase in research concerning aetiology and treatment of endometriosis, there has been limited focus on understanding the experiences of women diagnosed with this condition. In particular, there is a dearth of research investigating the psychological impact of endometriosis over time. Prior analyses of data from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health has identified a high prevalence of psychological distress amongst women with endometriosis. Yet, no study to date has investigated psychological distress over time. As endometriosis is a chronic and cyclical condition, it is expected that as the condition progresses or changes, so too will the psychological health of those affected. Understanding how psychological distress changes over time, and describing the potential patterns of distress, will enable us to understand the experiences of this population more thoroughly. To address this gap in the literature, we aim to describe trajectories of psychological distress in women with endometriosis who have participated in the ALSWH. |
| Project ID: A811 | **Reproductive factors and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Eline van Bennekom - Wageningen University * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Jane Fisher - School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University * Prof Rachel Huxley - Deakin University * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Flavia Cicuttini - Department of Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine, Monash University * Prof Martha Hickey - The University of Melbourne * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Mridula Bandyopadhyay - University of Melbourne * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Sabita Soedamah-Muthu - Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology, Tilburg University * Prof Marianne Geleijnse - Wageningen University and Research |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Current knowledge on links between risk factors and reproductive characteristics and increased risk of non-communicable diseases in women is impeded by the varying quality of existing data and gaps in evidence. This research will investigate associations of established and emerging risk factors at each stage of women’s lives (early life, young adult, main reproductive stage, menopausal transition, and later life) with the incidence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). |
| Publications: | Accuracy of death certifications of diabetes, dementia, and cancer in Australia: a population-based cohort study. Xu Z, Hockey R, McElwee P, Waller M & Dobson A. BMC Public Health, 2022, 22(1); 902. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Impacts of asthma severity, exacerbations and medication use on perinatal outcomes: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis (poster presentation). Xu Z, Doust JA, Wilson WF, Dobson AJ, Dharmage S & Mishra GD. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Brisbane, QLD, 27-28 May 2021. |

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| Project ID: A813A | **Dietary macronutrient intake and risk of cardiovascular disease in women** | | | |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Sarah Zaman - The University of Sydney | | | |
| Other collaborators: | * Anushriya Pant - University of Sydney * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * A/Prof Lisa Moran - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Sarah Gribbin - Monash University * Dr Joanne Enticott - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Eleanor Pei Hua Thong - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Simone Marschner - Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney * Dr Priscila Machado - Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition, Deakin University | | | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | | | |
| Synopsis: | Heart disease is the number one killer of Australian women, claiming more than 10,000 lives per year. One way to reduce heart disease is through dietary interventions. Historically, a low-fat diet has been recommended, however, recent evidence has not linked this with higher survival. Diets modifying the amount/type of carbohydrates have become increasingly popular for weight loss and control of diabetes. However, the effects of changing carbohydrate and fat intake on the risk of heart disease in Australian women is not well known. This study aims to investigate if amount, proportion and types of carbohydrate and fat intake in the diet influences the chance of developing heart disease later in life. | | | |
| The next step to this project is looking at whether the type (whole food versus processed and ultra-processed food) of carbohydrate intake as a percentage of daily intake predicts incident cardiovascular disease or death. We have completed data analysis and will be submitting to journals. Our manuscript was reviewed by Professor Mishra and received approval on 26/04/23. We are currently waiting for a response from the *European Journal of Nutrition.* We presented at the European Society of Cardiology Congress in August – conference abstract:  *Background:* Ultra-processed food (UPF) intake has increased in the past few decades, yet knowledge around the long-term effects on cardiovascular disease (CVD) is limited. Moreover, the magnitude of the impact of UPF intake on CVD in Australia has not been established. *Objective*: To investigate the association of UPF intake with incident CVD and hypertension in a population-based cohort of middle-aged women. *Methods*: Women aged 50-55 years were prospectively recruited into the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health and followed for 15 years. UPFs were defined according to the NOVA classification, and the contribution of these foods to total dietary intake was estimated. Outcomes were incident CVD (self-reported heart disease/stroke) and/or hypertension. Logistic regression models assessed the association between UFP intake and endpoints with adjustment for confounders. *Results*: A total 10,006 women (mean age 52.5) with an average UPF intake of 26.6% of total food dietary intake (mean 347.8 g/d) were followed for over 15 years of follow-up with 1,038 incident CVD and 4,204 hypertension cases. Higher UPF intake was associated with higher hypertension. The highest UPF intake (mean 42% of total food intake) versus the lowest UPF intake (mean 14.2% of total food intake) was associated with higher hypertension, but not CVD. *Conclusion*: In middle-aged women, a higher intake of ultra-processed food was associated with increased hypertension. These findings support minimising UPF intake within a heart-healthy diet. | | | | |
| Conference / Presentations: | Dietary carbohydrate and not saturated fat is associated with cardiovascular disease in a cohort of Australian women. Gribbin S, Enticott J, Hodge A, Joham A & Zaman S. 69th Annual Scientific meeting of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CZANZ) Adelaide, SA, 5-8 August 2021.  Association of Ultra-processed Foods with Cardiovascular Disease and Hypertension in middle-aged Women. Pant A. European Society of Cardiology Congress 2023, Pant A. 25th-28th August 2023. | | | |
| Project ID: A815 | | | | **The interface between Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF) and Acute Hospital Care for Australian women living in RACF, and possible variables that influence the interface** |
| Lead Investigator: | | | | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | | | | * Sarwoko Andi Pramono - University of Newcastle * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | | | | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | | | | The aim of this research is to investigate the interface between RACF and acute health care facilities (including emergency transfer), and the outcomes of the transfer upon Australian women living in RACF. The study also aims to identify factors that may influence any possible reduction of unnecessary transfers. The study will examine longitudinal data from ALSWH which is linked to external data. This research will provide important evidence that will assist in quality improvement activities, planning and policy development. It will identify opportunities to reduce unnecessary transfer which may consequently reduce potential adverse impacts of transfer that may influence health care service-related costs such as transfer, hospitalisation, treatment and medication costs. |
| Project ID: A818 | | | **An examination of low social support during pregnancy and its effect on mental health, quality of life and healthy lifestyle behaviours of pregnant women** | |
| Lead Investigator: | | | * Asres Bedaso - University of Technology Sydney | |
| Other collaborators: | | | * Prof Jon Adams - School of Public Health, University of Technology Sydney * Prof David Sibbritt - Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney * Dr WenBo (Penny) Peng - Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney | |
| Liaison person: | | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | |
| Synopsis: | | | Pregnancy is one of the important natural processes in women in which many biological, physiological and psychosocial changes are experienced. It is accompanied by hormonal changes and can represent a time of increased risk for the occurrence of behavioural and mental health problems. Several studies have shown that depressive symptoms, anxiety, and stress during pregnancy are risk factors for adverse outcomes for women and infants. One major risk factor affecting maternal well-being and reason for the occurrence of negative birth outcomes is lack of social support during pregnancy (LSS). LSS during pregnancy worsens the psychological health of the pregnant woman and negatively affects her healthy lifestyle behaviours. It has been suggested that effective SS, mainly providing emotional and instrumental support, is protective by minimizing the impact of stress on the emotional well-being of the mother. This prospective cohort study will examine risk factors for low social support during pregnancy and its effect on mental health, quality of life and healthy lifestyle behaviours of pregnant women. | |
| Publications: | | | Prevalence and determinants of low social support during pregnancy among Australian women: a community-based cross-sectional study. Bedaso A, Adams J, Peng W & Sibbritt D. Reproductive Health, 2021, 18; 158.  The association between social support and antenatal depressive and anxiety symptoms among Australian women. Bedaso A, Adams J, Peng W & Sibbritt D. BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth, 2021, 21(1); 708.  The mediational role of social support in the relationship between stress and antenatal anxiety and depressive symptoms among Australian women: a mediational analysis. Bedaso A, Adams J, Peng W. et al. Reproductive Health, 2021, 18(1); 250. | |
| Project ID: A821 | | **Modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease among women with and without a history of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy** | | |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Dr Melinda Hutchesson - The University of Newcastle | | |
| Other collaborators: | | * Ker Nee Ding - The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Amanda Patterson - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Prof Clare Collins - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Tracy Schumacher - Department of Rural Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Rachael Taylor - The University of Newcastle * Dr Vanessa Shrewsbury - The University of Newcastle * Dr Lisa Vincze - Griffith University * Kaylee Slater - The University of Newcastle | | |
| Liaison person: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | | |
| Synopsis: | | Women with a history of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy (HDP) (i.e., pre-eclampsia, gestational hypertension and chronic hypertension) are at higher risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD). Little is known about the rates of modifiable risk factors for CVD (i.e., unhealthy diet, physical inactivity/sedentary behaviour, smoking, excessive alcohol intake, excess body weight and poor mental health) following HDP. Our aim is to: a) describe the rates of individual and multiple modifiable risk factors for CVD among women following a HDP, and b) compare the odds of individual and multiple modifiable risk factors for CVD between women with and without a history of HDP. | | |
| Project ID: A823 | | **Impact of the residential greenspace on the mental health of the Australian women** | | |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Dr Tafzila Akter Mouly - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | | |
| Other collaborators: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Luke Knibbs - School of Public Health, The University of Sydney * Prof Mark Nieuwenhuijsen - Barcelona Institute for Global Health | | |
| Liaison person: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | | |
| Synopsis: | | This project will examine the effects of neighbourhood greenspace on the mental health of Australian women. Research on greenspace and mental health has been driven by an emerging interest in the last decade. However, most of the evidence came from cross-sectional studies. Moreover, several studies used historical environmental exposure data, which are not always spatially and temporally well-aligned with a participant’s residential address(es). ALSWH has mental health data collected by regular surveys as well as geocoded residential addresses. These data will allow investigation of the longitudinal association between spatially and temporally aligned residential greenspace and mental health in a large, national cohort of Australian women. | | |
| Publications: | | Residential greenspace and anxiety symptoms among Australian women living in major cities: A longitudinal analysis. Mouly TA, Mishra GD, Hystad P, Nieuwenhuijsen M & Knibbs L. Environment International, 2023. | | |
| Conference / Presentations: | | Impact of Residential Greenspace on the Mental Health of Australian Women (poster presentation). Mouly TA, Knibbs L & Mishra G Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Mouly TA, Knibbs L & Mishra G 27-28 May 2021. | | |

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| Project ID: A834 | | **Substance use in the perinatal period: The impact upon perinatal care, physical health, mental health, pregnancy and birth outcomes and how risk factors moderate any effects** |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Dr Kylie Bailey - Psychology Department, University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | | * Natalie Sinclair - Macquarie Drug and Alcohol Service, Mid North Coast Area Health * Dr Elizabeth Stojanovski - School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences, University of Newcastle * Dr Beth Mah - Mater Catherine's House * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | | Understanding the reasons why women of childbearing age use illicit substances is essential in planning what care this patient population needs. This project will explore three areas in the 1973-1978 and 1989-1995 cohorts in women who report pregnancy/birth. Initially the rates of reported substance use in the last year, among women in the perinatal period (defined as pregnant or in the first postnatal year will be determined). Associations between recent substance use and physical health, mental health and perinatal outcomes will be established. The contribution that various risk factors provide to any association will be analysed. |
| Project ID: A838 | **Rheumatoid arthritis in Australian women** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Ranjeny Thomas - The University of Queensland | |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Louise Koller-Smith - The University of Queensland * Prof Lyn March - Institute of Bone and Joint Research, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney * A/Prof Tracy Comans - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Ahmed Mehdi - The University of Queensland | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | |
| Synopsis: | The inflammatory autoimmune disease, rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is currently incurable and affects 23 million people worldwide. An effective intervention would minimise the need for ongoing treatment beyond the first transient symptoms in people at risk, preventing their progress to full-blown disease. To do this, we need to estimate the size of the at-risk population and the RA risk profile in Australia. Currently all estimates are self-reported, which over-estimates verified RA. This project estimates the prevalence, incidence and risk factors for RA in Australian women in the ALSWH. | |
| Progress Report: The project initially focused on developing a method of ascertaining rheumatoid arthritis (RA) cases within the ALSWH survey participant groups. This section is now completed- we have suggested using two definitions to define cases- a ‘treated RA’ group, based on PBS dispensed medications (with certain refinements to increase specificity), and a ‘documented RA’ group, based on hospital or ED presentations coded for RA. This work was presented as an oral presentation at the Australian Rheumatology Association (ARA) NSW meeting in 2021, and in poster format at the ARA NSW meeting 2021 and Queensland Women’s Health Forum in 2021. We have prepared a manuscript based on this work that is currently in the submission process for publication. Work is now underway on risk factor analysis. We are examining potentially modifiable factors and their impact on RA risk. Univariate analysis on obesity, smoking and hormone replacement therapy has been completed, with suggestion of association between these factors and RA risk. Alcohol intake is the next factor currently being examined. We will undertake multivariate analysis to control for confounders. Once multivariate analysis is complete we will prepare and publish manuscripts based on this risk factor analysis  . | | |
| Conference / Presentations: | Estimating the true prevalence of rheumatoid arthritis in Australian women (poster presentation). Koller-Smith L, Medi A, March L, Mishra G, Tooth L & Thomas R. Queensland Women's Health Forum 2021, Brisbane, QLD, 27-28 May 2021.  Estimating the prevalence of rheumatoid arthritis in Australia (poster presentation). Koller-Smith L. Australian Rheumatology Conference ASM 2022, Perth, WA, 6-9 May 2022. | |

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| Project ID: A846 | | | | **Stressful life events, diet quality and incident cardiometabolic disease** |
| Lead Investigator: | | | | * Dr Sabita Soedamah-Muthu - Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology, Tilburg University |
| Other collaborators: | | | | * Eline van Bennekom - Wageningen University * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Marianne Geleijnse - Wageningen University and Research |
| Liaison person: | | | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | | | | Existing literature supports the finding that diet and stress are associated with cardiometabolic disease, defined as CVD and diabetes. However, studies were often performed in men, although the onset and the course of illness differ between men and women. Symptoms of CVD in women are less specific and in both CVD and diabetes risk factors have different effects on men and women. Furthermore, animal studies showed interaction effects between diet and stress influencing factors related to metabolic disease. The current study will further elucidate the interaction between stressful life events and diet and its influence on cardiometabolic disease in women. |
| Project ID: A849A | **Three essays in Health Economics: IVF policy change implications** | | | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Brenda Gannon - Centre for Business and Economics of Health, The University of Queensland | | | |
| Other collaborators: | * Aarushi Dhingra - The University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Luke Connelly - The University of Queensland * Prof Brenda Gannon - Centre for Business and Economics of Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Anton Pak - Centre for the Business and Economics of Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Yaying Zhou - School of Economics, The University of Queensland | | | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | | | |
| Synopsis: | This research uses a microeconomics health production model and econometric models, to assess the economic impact of a policy change in the reimbursement for medical care in Australia and the resulting impact on the use of health services for women who received reproductive treatments such as In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF). It also studies the mortality and morbidity rates differentials among IVF-born and conventionally born children. | | | |
| Project ID: A853 | | | **Alcohol intake in middle-aged Australian women and access to primary health care services** | |
| Lead Investigator: | | | * Suzannah Bownes - University of Notre Dame | |
| Other collaborators: | | | * Dr Craig Smith - University of Notre Dame Australia * Dr Alexa Seal - University of Notre Dame Australia * A/Prof Catherine Harding - University of Notre Dame Australia | |
| Liaison person: | | | * Dr Amy Anderson - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Synopsis: | | | This project explores the relationship between middle-aged Australian women who drink alcohol above the recommended amount and access to primary health care services. Survey 8 of the 1973-78 cohort will be analysed to identify if and how frequently these women access primary health care services. The assumption being that if general practitioners are to opportunistically screen and undertake appropriate interventions with these women, we must first establish whether or not they attend primary health care. | |
| Project ID: A857 | | **Young Australian women’s experiences of endometriosis: A thematic analysis of longitudinal survey data** | | |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Sophie Callen - The University of Queensland | | |
| Other collaborators: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Nita Forouhi - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Tom Bishop - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Chunxiao Li - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Matthew Pearce - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Fumiaki Imamura - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Stephen Sharp - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Soumya Banerjee - MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge University * Dr Ingrid Rowlands - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Melissa Johnstone - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland | | |
| Liaison person: | | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland | | |
| Synopsis: | | Many women with endometriosis describe significant delay in their diagnosis of endometriosis, which can negatively impact on their social, psychological, and physical wellbeing. However, the experiences of young women (<25 years) have been under-represented in the endometriosis research. The present study will address a unique gap in the literature, by drawing on longitudinal qualitative data to explore the experiences of the same women over time. Drawing on a national cohort of young women will provide an insight into a wider range of Australian women's experiences with endometriosis. | | |

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| Project ID: A1235 | **Trajectories of physical activity, falls and consequences of falls from middle age to older age** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Wing Kwok - University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Cathie Sherrington - The University of Sydney * Dr Marina Pinheiro - University of Sydney * Dr Juliana Oliveira - University of Sydney * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Saman Khalatbari-Soltani - University of Sydney * Belinda Y Wang - The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The prevalence of falls increases from mid-life to older adulthood. The relationship between ongoing physical activity and sitting spent in middle age and subsequent falls and consequences of falls is not clear. This study aims to examine the relationship between 1) physical activity, 2) sitting time, 3) sitting time by different level of physical activity with subsequent falls, and describe patterns of physical activity level from middle age to older age and the association with 1) self-reported falls and injurious falls 2) falls events involving care in emergency departments and hospitals 3) consequences and 4) health care utilisation including costs. |
| Publications: | Physical activity and injurious falls in older Australian women: adjusted associations and modification by physical function limitation and frailty in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Kwok WS, Dolja-Gore X, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Byles J, Oliveira JS, Pinheiro MB, Naganathan V, Tiedemann A & Sherrington C. Age and Ageing, 2023, 52(6); 1-10. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Falls and physical activity in Australian older women. Kwok WS, Byles JE, Pinheiro MB, Oliveira JS, Dolja-Gore X, & Sherrington C. 19th National Conference of Emerging Researchers in Ageing, Kwok WS, Byles JE, Pinheiro MB, Oliveira JS, Dolja-Gore X, & Sherrington C. 4 November 2021.  Are there any differences in falls, injurious falls and physical activity participation in Australian women between two different generations? Kwok WS, Byles JE, Pinheiro MB, Oliveira JS, Dolja-Gore X & Sherrington C. Australia New Zealand Falls Prevention Conference, Virtual, 1-3 December 2021.  Associations between different amounts and types of physical activity (PA) and injurious falls in older Australian women (poster presentation). Kwok W. IAGG 2022: 22nd World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics Virtual, 12-16 June 2022.  Falls and physical activity in older Australian women from two different generations. Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Pinheiro M, Oliveira J, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Sherrington C. Safety 2022: 14th World Conference on Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion. Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Pinheiro M, Oliveira J, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Sherrington C. 27-30 November 2022.  Are there any differences in falls, physical activity (PA) and the associations between PA and falls in older women from two different generations? Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Pinheiro M, Oliveira J, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Sherrington C. IAGG 2022: 22nd World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Pinheiro M, Oliveira J, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Sherrington C. 12-16 June 2022.  Understanding physical activity and falls in Australian women. Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Pinheiro M, Oliveira J, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Sherrington C. NSW Fall Prevention and Healthy Ageing Network Annual Forum, Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Pinheiro M, Oliveira J, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Sherrington C. 27 May 2022.  Exploring the relationship between physical activity and falls in Australian women. Kwok W, Dolja-Gore X, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Byles J, Oliveira J, Pinheiro M, Sherrington C. 9th International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH) Congress, Abu, Dhabi, 23-26 October 2022.  Exploring bi-directional prospective relationship between physical activity (PA) and falls and long-term relationship between PA and falls in Australian women. Kwok W, Khalatbari-Soltani S, Dolja-Gore X, Byles J, Oliveira J, Pinheiro M, Sherrington C. World Physiotherapy Congress 2023, Dubai, UAE, 2-4 June 2023. |

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| Project ID: A1242 | **Lifestyle trajectories and risk of dementia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Sara Dingle - Deakin University |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dominic Cavenagh - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Susan Torres - Deakin University * Prof Robin Daly - Deakin University * Dr Catherine Milte - Deakin University * A/Prof Steven Bowe - Faculty of Health, Deakin University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Several modifiable lifestyle behaviours (e.g., diet, physical activity, alcohol consumption, smoking and social interaction) have been shown to influence dementia risk, but limited research has taken into consideration the clustering of these risk behaviours in this association. The purpose of this study is to apply advanced statistical modelling to consider potential clustering effects and examine how lifestyle trajectories impact on risk of dementia. |

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| Project ID: A1254 | **Exploring the experience of utilization rates of cardioprotective medications in Australian women with a history of cancer** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Aaron Sverdlov - University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Joshua Bennetts - University of Newcastle * A/Prof Doan Ngo - University of Newcastle * Dr Jennifer White - University of Newcastle * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Modern cancer therapies improve survival rates for many cancers. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) rates and risk factors increase in cancer patients and survivors compared with the general population. CVD emerged as a leading cause of long-term morbidity and mortality in this population. A cross-sectional-observational study of 333 admissions to John Hunter Hospital (JHH) cardiology unit between July 2018-January 2019 identified cardioprotective therapies, especially statins and antiplatelet agents, were underutilized in patients with cancer history compared with patients without cancer and comparable cardiovascular risk factors. This study explores the experience of use of cardioprotective medications in women with cancer histories compared to those with none on a larger, more representative scale. |

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| Project ID: A1268 | **Text mining on qualitative ALSWH data** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jananie William - Australian National University | |
| Other collaborators: | * Eva Zhang - Australian National University * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Jananie William - Australian National University | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Synopsis: | Qualitative data collected through ALSWH surveys have been found to contain valuable information but it is difficult to access these data quickly and easily. This project will investigate automated text-mining, and specifically, the use of statistical learning techniques to better utilise ALSWH qualitative data. We will explore different types of statistical learning algorithms and assess them for both accuracy and automation within the context of the longitudinal survey data. We aim to select a number of methods that produce the best results in terms of accuracy and automation when it comes to interpreting the qualitative longitudinal data.  Text-mining techniques have been found to be useful in the analysis of qualitative data due to the increase in big data capabilities in many industries. Text-mining techniques on longitudinal data have been used in many areas such as medical research and higher education. To better understand the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health (ALSWH) qualitative data, we should introduce text-mining techniques to help automate and process large amounts of longitudinal survey data, especially comments from participants. For example, sentiment analysis will help analyse participants' mental health status and development over the years.  Research aims: We aim to find and test multiple text-mining techniques to improve utilisation of ALSWH longitudinal qualitative data. We focus on participants who had traumatic experiences and hypothesise that there may be a specific negative sentiment related to the traumatic experience in the longitudinal data over a long period. One of the questions that will be discussed in this research is how the text-mining techniques can identify that and give a trend of the development of sentiment over time. Using the text-mining methods used in other industries and some R packages, these methods (longitudinal text-mining and sentiment analysis) will be explored using ALSWH data. This text mining research also aims to build an automating text-mining approach that enables it to be used flexibly for the ALSWH data, and even for other source data.  Research questions: 1. What approach is best to improve access to qualitative data for ALSWH users? 2. Which text mining techniques perform the best for longitudinal qualitative survey data in terms of accuracy? 3. Which text mining techniques perform the best for automation of qualitative data? 4. What are the methods that can be used to test the accuracy? 5. What is the final recommendation of the text mining techniques that most comprehensively satisfy our needs and have a high accuracy rate? | |
| Project ID: A1278 | | **Optimism as a potential protective factor for mental health outcomes following sexual assault** |
| Lead Investigator: | | * Rebecca Fellowes - University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | | * A/Prof Penny Buykx - University of Newcastle * A/Prof Sally Hunt - The University of Newcastle * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | | Whilst sexual assault is associated with a range of detrimental outcomes, many survivors also experience personal growth following the traumatic experience. A range of cross-sectional studies have demonstrated a positive association between increased optimism and improved mental health in sexual assault survivors specifically. However, high-quality longitudinal research investigating this relationship is still lacking. As such, using data from the 1946-1951 cohort, this project explores the relationship between sexual abuse, victims' level of dispositional optimism and their long-term mental health outcomes. We primarily aim to explore whether optimism protects against detrimental mental health outcomes following sexual abuse. |

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| Project ID: A1280 | **Socio-demographic characteristics, quality of life, and health-related behaviours of childless women from young adulthood to middle age** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Chuyao Jin - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Xiaolin Xu - Zhejiang University * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Childlessness, either by choice (voluntarily childless) or as a consequence of biological or other constraints (involuntarily childless), is increasing in high-income countries and contributes to the fertility decline. The increase in childlessness indicates the importance of exploring the consequences of this social change. Previous studies mainly used cross-sectional designs and focused on mental health among older women with fertility issues. In the current research, ALSWH (1973-78) cohort data is used to understand the socio-demographic characteristics, quality of life, and health-related behaviours of women in the childless group, from young adulthood to middle age. |
| Publications: | Do mothers or females without children have better health-related quality of life across their reproductive years? Jin C, Tooth LR, Xu X & Mishra GD. Quality of Life Research, 2023.  Is being childless associated with a woman’s risk of overweight and obesity? Results from a national longitudinal study. Jin C, Tooth LR, Xu X & Mishra GD. International Journal of Obesity, 2023; 1-7. |
| Project ID: A1282A | **Longitudinal analysis of the effect of social health on health care utilisation and mortality among older women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Ding (Melody) Ding - Sydney School of Public Health, The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Neta HaGani - University of Sydney * A/Prof Ding (Melody) Ding - Sydney School of Public Health, The University of Sydney * Prof Benjamin Smith - University of Sydney * Prof Dafna Merom - Western Sydney University * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Philip Clare - Prevention Research Collaboration, The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Previous studies have reported inconsistent associations between social health and healthcare use. In addition, there is evidence that the effect of loneliness on healthcare use and on mortality that was found in previous studies was due to partly adjusted data. The causal effect of loneliness on healthcare use and on mortality has never been tested. The current study will examine the effect of loneliness on healthcare use and on mortality. Our study will contribute to the understanding of loneliness’s long-term effects. It will provide the necessary knowledge to improve the screening and treatment of older women in the health care system and to prevent unnecessary negative health outcomes and necessary health care use. |

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| Project ID: A1283 | **Resilience after surgery in older women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Geeske Peeters - Radboud University Medical Centre |
| Other collaborators: | * Isa de Munck - Radboud University Medical Centre * Dr Ren Melis - Radboud University Medical Center |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Resilience is the individual’s ability to recover from a stressor, e.g., an illness or surgery. Resilience tends to be lower in older, frailer individuals with multiple diseases. Insufficient ability to recover from treatment is a contra-indicator for treatment. To date, physical resilience has mainly been investigated in small patient groups in clinical settings. Little is known about the public health impact of poor physical resilience. The aim of this body of work is to examine physical resilience from a public health perspective. We will examine the definition and prevalence of poor physical resilience in older women. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Physical Functioning 12 years before and after knee or hip surgery in older women. Peeters G, de Munck I & Melis R. Annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Tampa, Florida, USA, 7-12 November 2023. |

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| Project ID: A1285 | **Body dissatisfaction and psychological well-being in pregnancy** | |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Robyn Brunton - Charles Sturt University | |
| Other collaborators: | * Nadine Galloway - Australian Catholic University * A/Prof Rachel Dryer - Australian Catholic University * Dr Robyn Brunton - Charles Sturt University | |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle | |
| Synopsis: | For this study, we used data from the 1973-78 cohort (6,666 non-pregnant women and 205 pregnant women). A multivariate analysis of covariance found that pregnant women had less body dissatisfaction, anxiety and depression than non-pregnant women. However, the multiple regression analyses revealed that body dissatisfaction accounted for more variance in both anxiety and depression in pregnant women compared to non-pregnant women. Parity and trimester did not significantly influence the relationships between body dissatisfaction, anxiety, and depression. The findings of this study suggest that pregnant women, in comparison to non-pregnant women, may not necessarily experience higher levels of body dissatisfaction. However, for pregnant women, body dissatisfaction may contribute more to their levels of psychological distress. Interventions aimed at improving body image during pregnancy may benefit the health and well-being of both mother and child. | |
| Project ID: A1294 | | **Development of diabetes and cardiovascular events following gestational diabetes or pre-eclampsia: An Australian mothers data linkage project** |
| Lead Investigator: | | * A/Prof Sarah Zaman - The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | | * Simone Marschner - Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney * Prof Ngai Wah Cheung - Westmead Applied Research Centre, The University of Sydney * Prof Clara Chow - Westmead Applied Research Centre, The University of Sydney * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | | This study assesses the association of novel female risk factors, such as pre-eclampsia, gestational diabetes, breast feeding and premature menopause, on clinical outcomes of diagnosis of diabetes and cardiovascular outcomes that are currently not included in risk factor calculators. Healthy lifestyle factors such as diet and exercise will be accounted for in the analysis, and we will provide further evidence of their association with diagnosis of diabetes and cardiovascular outcomes. |

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| Project ID: A1302 | **Artificial sweetened beverages consumption and maternal and child health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Jo Zhou - University of Adelaide |
| Other collaborators: | * Bereket Gebremichael Menota - The University of Adelaide * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Mumtaz Begum - University of Adelaide * Dr Zohra Lassi - University of Adelaide |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Consumption of artificial sweeteners has increased substantially over the last few decades. Emerging evidence suggests that regular consumption of artificial sweeteners impairs blood glucose control in healthy adults, and may increase the risk of childhood obesity in children whose mothers consumed artificial sweeteners in pregnancy. This study examines the relationship between maternal consumption of artificial sweeteners in pregnancy, and maternal & child health in the ALSWH and MatCH cohorts. |

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| Project ID: A1319 | **The role of perceived social support in the relationship between premenstrual symptoms and postnatal depression** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Sophia Bracken - The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Sally Hunt - The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Postnatal depression is a debilitating mental health disorder affecting approximately 15% of mothers in the 12 months after delivery. Previous research has established that women who frequently experience premenstrual symptoms are especially vulnerable to developing postnatal depression. It has also been established that low perceived social support in the postpartum is associated with postnatal depression, but it is unclear whether this is the case for women with frequent premenstrual symptoms. To identify a potential prevention/treatment target for these women, this study aims to determine whether low perceived social support in the postpartum is linked to postnatal depression in women with premenstrual symptoms. |
| Project ID: A1321 | **Prevalence and risk factors for osteoporosis, falls and fractures in Australian women with inflammatory arthritis** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Cathie Sherrington - The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Catherine Cho - Institute of Musculoskeletal Health * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Wing Kwok - University of Sydney * Dr Saman Khalatbari-Soltani - University of Sydney * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The lifetime risk of minimal trauma fractures for women is 44% for women and 25% for men. Osteoporosis and falls are both major independent predictors of minimal trauma fractures, with approximately one-third of individuals older than  65 years falling each year. Inflammatory arthropathies (IAs) are associated with higher prevalence of osteoporosis, falls and fracture burden. The aim of this project is to define the prevalence and risk factors for osteoporosis, falls and fractures in Australian women with rheumatoid arthritis and other inflammatory arthropathies and to describe trends for screening and treatment. |
| Project ID: A1323 | **Breastfeeding in Australian women with maternal metabolic conditions: A study of rates, durations, and predictive factors** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Kate Rassie - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Aya Mousa - Monash University * Dr Joanne Enticott - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Metabolic conditions such as diabetes (pre-gestational Type 1 and 2, and gestational) and polycystic ovary syndrome affect an increasing proportion of Australian pregnancies. Breastfeeding represents an important opportunity to optimise both neonatal and future maternal health, and may have particular benefits for women at high metabolic risk. However, existing national and international data suggests that rates of both initiation and continuation of breastfeeding may be lower in these metabolic subgroups than in the general population.  We intend to explore breastfeeding outcomes among Australian women with metabolic disease, and examine the contribution of key explanatory and predictive variables (including BMI and socio-economic factors). |

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| Project ID: A1347 | **Characteristics and predictors of allied health service use among people with Parkinson’s disease** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Serene Paul - The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Cassandra Wong - The University of Sydney * Prof Sarah Dennis - The University of Sydney * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Natalie Allen - The University of Sydney * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Mobility problems are common in people with Parkinson's disease (PD), contributing to falls and poor quality of life. Despite evidence that allied health interventions such as physiotherapy improve mobility and reduce falls in people with PD, particularly in early disease stages, most people with PD are referred to allied health later in disease when mobility problems are pronounced. This study aims to investigate (i) what allied health services people with PD access, and what characteristics are associated with differences in access (e.g., living in rural/remote versus metropolitan areas, by socioeconomic status, by PD severity); (ii) time from diagnosis to use of publicly-funded allied health services, and (iii) associations between allied health service use and health services associated with deteriorating mobility, i.e., hospitalisation for rehabilitation, falls and fractures, and nursing home admission. We have started identifying cases with Parkinson's disease since mid-June 2023, beginning with the PBS dataset. |

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| Project ID: A1348 | **Compliance with current dietary health guidelines among young-old women (68-73 years) - a cross-sectional analysis of data from the 1946-51 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Louise Wilson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Olivia Sandral - The University of Queensland * Dr Preetha Thomas - The University of Queensland * Mikaela Wheeler - The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The aim of this project is to better understand the nutritional status and dietary behaviours of young-old Australian women (68-73 years). The project will include investigation of compliance among this group of women with Australian dietary guidelines (using the CSIRO total diet score) and how compliance may vary by sociodemographic, behavioural and health factors. |

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| Project ID: A1351 | **Non-alcoholic beverage consumption in women from the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women’s Health** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Jing Rou Lim - University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * A/Prof Amanda Patterson - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle * Dr Tracy Schumacher - Department of Rural Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Susan Heaney - Department of Rural Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | As the food supply has changed greatly to meet changing consumer needs and preferences, beverage consumption is an important dietary aspect to assess and track. Beverages play a substantial role in meeting total fluid intake needs and are a major contributor to overall nutrient and energy intake. This project aims to determine beverage consumption patterns using 9-15 years of ALSWH data, in order to understand how non-alcoholic beverage consumption has changed for Australian women over time. This study will provide fundamental information about beverage consumption and may assist further research in determining impact on specific health outcomes. |

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| Project ID: A1352 | **Prenatal and early life predictors of adherence to 24-h movement behaviour guidelines in Australian children** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project investigates whether early life factors such as birth weight, prematurity, birth order, and maternal health before pregnancy are associated with physical activity, screen time and sleep among children and adolescents.  Finding effective ways to increase adherence to 24-4 movement behaviour guidelines in Australian children and adolescents will have intergenerational public health benefits today, into adulthood and for the next generation. |

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| Project ID: A1360 | **The association of maternal occupational factors (working hours, shift work) with preterm birth in employed Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Alex Collie - Monash University |
| Other collaborators: | * Haimanot Adane - Monash University * A/Prof Ross Iles - Monash University * Prof Jacqueline Boyle - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Luke Sheehan - Monash University |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | In Australia, 8.6% of all births are premature, and this number has increased by 10% over the last decade. Previous international research has identified that the physical conditions of work can increase the risk of preterm birth. However, there has been only a single study conducted in Australia to date. Data from employed women who reported singleton births in the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health will be used to examine the association between working hours, shift work and preterm birth. Analyses will adjust for multiple preterm birth risk factors.  This project was approved in mid- 2023 and the research team is beginning data exploration and quality assurance. |

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| Project ID: A1361 | **Health conditions and behaviours of women who regularly consult their GP across their childbearing years** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Danielle Schoenaker - University of Southampton |
| Other collaborators: | * Luke Dcaccia - University of Southampton * Dr Amie Steel - Health Services Research, University of Technology Sydney * Dr Elizabeth Lovegrove - University of Southampton |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Most women enter pregnancy with health conditions and behaviours, such as smoking, obesity and diabetes, that may increase their risk of complications during and after pregnancy. Complications, such as high blood pressure and preterm birth, affect the immediate and longer-term health of mothers and babies. GPs and their healthcare teams are therefore encouraged to support their patients to minimise risk factors in preparation for a healthy pregnancy. This study aims to identify opportunities for preconception care in the general practice setting, by describing and examining associations between women’s health conditions and behaviours throughout their reproductive years and their frequency of consulting a GP. |

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| Project ID: A1363 | **Examining the relationships between intimate partner violence and suicidal thoughts and behaviours: A latent growth curve modelling analysis** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Victoria Rasmussen - University of New South Wales |
| Other collaborators: | * Dusan Hadzi-Pavlovic - Discipline of Psychiatry and Mental Health, University of New South Wales * Dr Nancy Briggs - University of New South Wales * Prof Zachary Steel - School of Clinical Medicine, University of New South Wales * A/Prof Michelle Tye - Medicine & Health, University of New South Wales * Prof Joanne Spangaro - School of Health and Society, University of Wollongong |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | In Australia, one in four women aged 15 or older has experienced at least one incident of intimate partner violence. Victimisation is known to increase women's risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviours. Despite the heightened risk of death from partner- and self-directed violence, there has been a lack of research evidencing the strength of the relationship between intimate partner violence and suicide. Many knowledge gaps remain that affect how women are treated when they connect with health and community services, the kinds of support that they can access and importantly, where funding is allocated. This study aims to address knowledge gaps by uncovering the pathways between intimate partner violence and suicide overtime among women taking part in the ALSWH study (cohorts 1973-1978 and 1989-1995). It also looks at what experiences might impact the relationship between intimate partner violence and suicide, such as, a diagnosis of posttraumatic stress disorder and negative childhood events. |
| Project ID: A1364 | **Domestic violence and mental health: A longitudinal examination of domestic violence and psychological distress for Australian women** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Jemma Henderson - Hunter Medical Research Institute, Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Jenny Bowman - School of Behavioural Sciences, University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Caitlin Fehily - The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Our main objective is to investigate the psychological outcomes of Australian women who have experienced domestic violence. We will compare self-reported psychological distress pre and post reporting of domestic violence for women in the 1989-1995 cohort, allowing us to analyse how psychological distress changes over time in relation to domestic violence. The study will also examine the difference between women who exhibit high levels of psychological distress compared to those who report lower levels, with the aim of understanding how social, environmental, and personal factors influence various outcomes after experiencing domestic violence. |

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| Project ID: A1365 | **Legalized abortion access and outcomes relating to family formation, human capital formation, labour market participation and health for women in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Rebecca Mckibbin - The University of Sydney |
| Other collaborators: | * Jessica Marnie - The University of Sydney * Dr Gregor Pfeifer - The University of Sydney |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This project will examine the effects of legalizing access to abortion services on women’s outcomes relating to family formation, human capital formation, labour market participation and health. An honours thesis will cover family formation, while longer-term research will explore the latter three outcome areas. The treatment, legalised access to abortion, is defined as the combination of individual Australian state legislative abortion reforms and the inclusion of abortion medication on the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme. The project will utilise a staggered differences-in-differences methodology to isolate the effects of legalized access and allow for comparisons between each state in Australia across different time periods. |

## Completed student projects

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| Project ID: A758A | **Carbohydrate restriction and risk of type 2 diabetes in reproductive-aged women with and without a history of gestational diabetes** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Danielle Schoenaker - University of Southampton |
| Other collaborators: | * Sophie Lewandowski - University of Wollongong * Dr Ellie D’Arcy - Health Intelligence Unit, NSW Health * A/Prof Allison Hodge - Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council Victoria * Dr Elizabeth Neale - University of Wollongong |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Women diagnosed with gestational diabetes are at increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes immediately after pregnancy. In the general population, type 2 diabetes risk can be influenced by dietary intake. Among women with and without a history of gestational diabetes who participated in the 1946-51 cohort, we found that women who restricted their intake of carbohydrates the most were at higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes during mid-life. As a follow-up of this study, the current project aims to examine if a diet low in carbohydrates is associated with development of type 2 diabetes in women in the 1973-78 cohort with and without a history of gestational diabetes, to confirm if our previous findings can be extrapolated to development of type 2 diabetes during the reproductive years. |
| Publications: | Quality of low-carbohydrate diets among Australian post-partum women: Cross-sectional analysis of a national population-based cohort study. Lewandowski S, Neale E, D'Arcy E, Hodge AM & Schoenaker DAJM. Maternal and Child Nutrition, 2023; 1-15. |

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| Project ID: A810 | **Incidence and predictors of Neonatal Near Miss, and its impact on parenting and child health outcomes in Australia** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Tahir Ahmed Hassen - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Peta Forder - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Nick Egan - Centre for Women’s Health Research, The University of Newcastle * A/Prof Koert de Waal - Department of Neonatology John Hunter Children’s Hospital |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | The concept of neonatal near miss (NNM), a condition where a newborn has nearly died but survived, has been proposed as a tool for assessment of quality of care in neonates who suffered any life-threatening condition. Research from other settings indicates that different factors contribute to the incidence of NNM and children with NNM history are at risk of encountering various health and health related problems during their course of life. Research also has indicated that having a high-risk infant poses significant family, societal and economic impacts; although this relationship is yet to be investigated with NNM. This project will align these areas of research by investigating the incidence and predictors of NNM, and its impact on parenting and child health outcomes. |
| Publications: | The association between birth weight and proxy-reported health-related quality of life among children aged 5-10 years old: A linked data analysis. Hassen TA, Chojenta C, Egan N & Loxton D. BMC Pediatrics, 2021, 21(1); 1-8.  Determinants of neonatal near miss in Australia: A multilevel analysis. Hassen TA, Chojenta C, Egan, N & Loxton D. Early Human Development, 2021, 156; 105343.  The Association between the Five-Minute Apgar Score and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes among Children Aged 8-66 Months in Australia. Hassen TA, Chojenta C, Egan N & Loxton D. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 2021, 18(12); 6450. |

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| Project ID: A829A | **Study 2-Relationship between diet quality index and incident NCDs: 1973-78 cohort** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Hlaing Hlaing Hlaing - The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Meredith Tavener - School of Medicine and Public Health, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Prof Erica James - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Unhealthy diet has been identified as a major modifiable risk factor for prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Diet quality, measuring a range of foods, food groups, and/or nutrients, has been widely applied in studies relating NCD mortality. Limited work currently exists regarding the investigation of unhealthy diet and multimorbidity, defined as the presence of two or more chronic medical conditions. Given that NCD mortality and multimorbidity increase with age, especially among women, this program of work aims to understand the association between diet quality and NCDs (including multimorbidity) and all-cause mortality among the 1973-78 ALSWH cohort. |
| Publications: | Alternative Healthy Eating Index-2010 and incident non-communicable diseases: Findings from a 15-year follow up of women from the 1973-78 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Hlaing-Hlaing H, Dolja-Gore X, Tavener M, James EL & Hure AJ. Nutrients, 2022, 14(20); 4403. |

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| Project ID: A830A | **Longitudinal model building for diet quality and incident NCDs: 1973-78 cohort (Study 3)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * A/Prof Alexis Hure - College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Hlaing Hlaing Hlaing - The University of Newcastle * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Meredith Tavener - School of Medicine and Public Health, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Prof Erica James - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle * Dr Xenia Dolja-Gore - School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | There is rising non-communicable disease (NCD) prevalence with advancing age, with women disproportionately affected, and almost half of all Australian women with NCDs are in the window of reproductive age. Longitudinal analysis testing the association between diet quality (DQ) and NCDs is necessary to (i) improve the quality of methods used in studies of diet-disease relationships, and (ii) design future effective dietary intervention for NCD prevention. Therefore, this study aims to examine the impact of time-varying covariates and longitudinal analysis of diet as a predictor of NCDs in women from the ALSWH born between 1973-78. |
| Publications: | Alternative Healthy Eating Index-2010 and incident non-communicable diseases: Findings from a 15-year follow up of women from the 1973-78 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Hlaing-Hlaing H, Dolja-Gore X, Tavener M, James EL & Hure AJ. Nutrients, 2022, 14(20); 4403. |

# Appendix C: Substudies

## Current substudies

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| Project ID: W091 | **Mother's and their Children's Health (MatCH) study - Phase I** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Ilona Koupil - Stockholm University & Karolinska Institute * Prof Peter Davies - Centre for Children's Health Research, The University of Queensland * Prof Virginia Slaughter - School of Psychology, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Kylie Hesketh - School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Deakin University * Prof Carol Bower - Telethon Institute for Child Health Research (TICHR), University of Western Australia * Prof Peter Sly - Centre for Children's Health Research, The University of Queensland * Colleen Loos- Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Hsiu-Wen Chan - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | The MatCH study takes a family-centred approach to advance understanding of child health and development in terms of all the children in a family unit, by investigating factors with regard to a) the history of maternal and family characteristics and b) their effects on the health and development of all the children in the family. The study combines detailed data from a national cohort of women with new survey data on their children to paint a picture of family health and health service use that is unparalleled, supporting a more integrated and targeted approach to the delivery of preventative and primary health care for all Australian families. |
| Publications: | Does Timing Matter? Associations Between Intimate Partner Violence Across the Early Life Course and Internalizing and Externalizing Behavior in Children. 'Moss KM, Loxton D & Mishra GD. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 2023; 1-22.  Associations between feeding practices in infancy and fruit and vegetable consumption in childhood. Moss KM, Dobson AJ, Tooth L & Mishra GD. British Journal of Nutrition, 2020, 124(12); 1320-1328.  Which Australian women do not exclusively breastfeed to 6 months, and why? Moss KM, Dobson AJ, Tooth L & Mishra GD. Journal of Human Lactation, 2021, 37(2); 390-402.  Not all play equipment is created equal: associations between equipment at home and children’s physical activity. Moss KM, Dobson AJ, Edwards KL, Hesketh KD, Chang Y-T & Mishra GD. Journal of Physical Activity and Health, 2019, 16(11); 945-951.  The role of offspring’s birthweight on the association between pre-pregnancy obesity and offspring’s childhood anthropometrics: a mediation analysis. Adane AA, Tooth L & Mishra G. Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease, 2019, 10(5); 570-577.  Maternal preconception weight trajectories, pregnancy complications and offspring’s childhood physical and cognitive development. Adane A, Mishra G & Tooth L. Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease, 2018, 9(6); 653-660.  MatCH (Mothers and their Children’s Health) Profile: Offspring of the 1973-78 cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Mishra GD, Moss K, Loos C, Dobson AJ, Davies PSW, Loxton D, Hesketh KD, Koupil I, Bower C, Sly P, & Tooth L. Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, 2018, 9(3); 351-375.  Maternal preconception weight trajectories are associated with offspring’s childhood obesity. Adane A, Dobson A, Tooth L & Mishra G. International Journal of Obesity, 2018, 42(7); 1265-1274.  Maternal pre-pregnancy obesity and childhood physical and cognitive development of children: A systematic review. Adane AA, Mishra GD & Tooth LR. International Journal of Obesity, 2016, 40; 1608-1618.  Diabetes in pregnancy and childhood cognitive development: A systematic review. Adane AA, Mishra GD & Tooth LR. Pediatrics, 2016, 137(5); e20154234. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Understanding intergenerational health: methodology of the Mothers and their Childrens Health Study. Loos C. Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2019, Brisbane, QLD, 23-25 October 2019.  Mothers and their Children’s Health (MatCH) study: is pregnancy a sensitive period? Moss K. Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2019, Brisbane, QLD, 23-25 October 2019.  Understanding maternal preconception weight trajectories and child outcomes using a cohort-within-cohort study design. Tooth L. Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2019, Brisbane, QLD, 23-25 October 2019.  A new method for investigating associations between play equipment and physical activity. Moss K. Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2019, Brisbane, QLD, 23-25 October 2019. |

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| Project ID: W096 | **Women's constrained choices: How does it affect women?** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Melissa Johnstone - Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Christina Lee - School of Psychology, University of Queensland * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Given the impact that childbearing has on Australian women’s working careers, compared to women in other countries, there is a need to understand the extent to which women feel they are active agents in their work-family choices, and how important this is for their well-being. Through semi-structured interviews with a subsample of women, this research aims to understand how much women see themselves as active agents in their work-family decision making, the importance of agency for their well-being, and the relative influence of policy and other sociodemographic factors on life choices for women. This will advance knowledge in work-family literature, women’s life course development, and contribute to the evidence-base for policies that support the needs of women. |
| Publications: | ‘It’s been a bit of a rollercoaster’: Australian women’s difficulties and coping strategies. Lucke J & Johnstone M. Issues in Mental Health Nursing, 2020, 42(1); 46-56. |
| Project ID: W102A | **Living beyond expectations: How older women demonstrate successful and healthy ageing** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Meredith Tavener - School of Medicine and Public Health, Health and Ageing, University of Newcastle * Emily Princehorn - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Catherine Chojenta - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Julie Byles - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Centenarians are a model of ageing well’, having lived long and delayed the onset of disease and disability until much later in life.  With increasing longevity, larger numbers of people will live to 100. However, little is known about the experiences of people at this extreme old age, as few studies have included very old people and most do not have data from earlier life to put these late life experiences into a life course context.  Current participants of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health include an elite group of over 1,400 women who are already past their mid-90sm and who are likely to live to 100. In-depth interviews with a sample of these women will provide a rare opportunity to gain insights into the experience of extreme old age, and to contrast their current and retrospective views with the trajectories and circumstances presented by the quantitative and qualitative data collected by ALSWH since 1996, when the women were in their 70s.  The interviews will be framed by the new WHO healthy ageing framework and will focus on women's ability to do the things they want to do, and the balance between intrinsic capacity and functional support.  Interviews with women born 1946-51 will provide insight into the prospects for healthy ageing for women in this cohort. |
| Publications: | Healthy Ageing at very old ages - Perspectives from women in the oldest cohort of The Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Byles J, Tavener M & Princehorn E, 2022. |
| Conference / Presentations: | Ageing at very old ages - perspectives of women from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Byles J 53rd AAG Conference, Byles J 18-20 November 2020.  100 and Not Out: Health and Healthy Ageing for Women Approaching 100 Years of Age. Byles J. IAGG 2022: 22nd World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics Byles J. 12-16 June 2022. |

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| Project ID: W103A | **M-PreM study: Reproductive factors, from menarche to premenopause, and the risk of cardiometabolic and respiratory conditions before menopause** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Helena Teede - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Dr Anju Joham - Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University * Prof Rachel Huxley - Deakin University * Prof Debra Anderson - Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney * Dr Hsiu-Wen Chan - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Hsin-Fang Chung - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Charrlotte Seib - School of Nursing and Midwifery, Griffith University * Prof Grant Montgomery - Institute for Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Shyamali Dharmage - Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne * A/Prof Jenny Visser - Erasmus University Medical Centre * Prof Harold (David) McIntyre - Mater Clinical Unit, The University of Queensland * Prof Emmanuel Stamatakis - Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney * Prof Bu Yeap - Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, The University of Western Australia * Prof David Handelsman - ANZAC Research Institute * Prof Alan Hayes - Western Centre for Health Research and Education, Victoria University * Dr Matthew Ahmadi - The University of Sydney * Leticia Watanabe Ribeiro - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Gregore Mielke - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland. * Le Wei - Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney * Chuyao Jin - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Jason Abbott - University of New South Wales * Dr Michael Waller - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Jenna Liimatainen - RECOVER Injury Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Chronic conditions and poor health show marked sex differences in their prevalence and severity across the life course. Previous studies have typically focussed on risk factors for these conditions among postmenopausal women. This study maps the pathways between early life factors, female reproductive factors (from the first period through to pregnancy and subfertility and menopause), lifestyle behaviours (e.g., alcohol consumption, smoking, vaping, physical activity, nutrition), psychosocial factors (e.g., violence/abuse, social support) and the markers of chronic disease and poor health among women in their 40s. The project conducted a range of clinical tests, fitting a physical activity monitor, and collecting blood samples to measure cardiometabolic and hormone markers, genetic analysis, and for biobanking. The biodata collected, along with the women’s survey data, is now being used in a range of research analyses. |
| Publications: | Cohort profile: A prospective Australian cohort study of women’s reproductive characteristics and risk of chronic disease from menarche to premenopause (M-PreM). Chan HW, Dharmage SC, Dobson AJ, Chung HF, Loxton D, Doust J, Montgomery GW, Stamatakis E, Huxley RR, Hamer M, Abbott J, Yeap BB, Visser JA, McIntyre H, Mielke GI & Mishra GD. BMJ Open, 2022, 12(10); e064333.  Physical activity accumulated across adulthood and resting heart rate at age 41-46 years in women: Findings from the Menarche to Premenopause Study. Mielke GI, Doust J, Chan HW, Mishra GD. Journal of Physical Activity Health, 2023. |

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| Project ID: W104 | **Contraceptive choice for women with chronic disease: a qualitative approach** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Dr Melissa Harris - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Jacqueline Coombe - Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, The University of Melbourne * Prof Deborah Bateson - Daffodil Centre * Emma Byrnes - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Liaison person: | * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle |
| Synopsis: | Unintended pregnancy remains high in developed countries despite access to high quality sexual and reproductive services. Some evidence exists that women with chronic diseases experience unintended pregnancy at significantly higher rates than women without chronic disease. For these women, unintended pregnancies are associated with serious adverse maternal and perinatal outcomes including, congenital abnormalities, pre-term labour, spontaneous abortion, and foetal death. Optimised preconception care and reproductive life planning is critical to the prevention of unintended pregnancies and reduction in pregnancy-related complications in women with chronic diseases. Little information exists in the Australian context. The aim of this project is to understand how women in their prime child-bearing years (and their partners) negotiate contraceptive decision-making and reproductive life planning in the context of chronic disease. |

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| Project ID: W105 | **Genetic variants, Early Life exposures, and Longitudinal Endometriosis symptoms Study (GELLES)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Dr Ingrid Rowlands - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Sally Mortlock - Institute for Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland * Prof Grant Montgomery - Institute for Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Prof Jayne Lucke - School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Dr Dereje Gedle Gete - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * Sara Berndt - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Mohammad Reza Baneshi - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | Endometriosis is a complex disease with a poorly understood aetiology. There is some evidence that implicates various genetic factors in the aetiology of the disease. Limited epidemiologic data is available on the role of early life factors, particularly in utero exposures, and symptoms during adolescence in endometriosis development. The Genetic variants, Early Life exposures, and Longitudinal Endometriosis symptoms Study (GELLES) aims to identify genetic and early life factors that contribute to the development and progression of endometriosis. The outcomes of the study will assist in the prediction of endometriosis to facilitate earlier diagnosis for young women.  Data collection from women in the ALSWH 1989-95 and 1973-78 cohorts is almost complete. A PhD student was recruited and began work in 2023. |

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| Project ID: W122 | **Mothers and their Children's Healthcare Experience Study (MatCHES)** |
| Lead Investigator: | * Prof Gita Mishra - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland |
| Other collaborators: | * Prof Jenny Doust - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Deborah Loxton - Centre for Women's Health Research, The University of Newcastle * Dr Lisa Buckley - The University of Queensland * Prof Kathleen Baird - Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney * A/Prof Anthony Herbert - Queensland University of Technology * A/Prof Seema Mihrshahi - Department of Health Sciences, Macquarie University * Prof Annette Dobson - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Prof Craig Olsson - Deakin University * Dr Ellen Wessel - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland * Richard Hockey - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, School of Public Health, The University of Queensland * A/Prof Leigh Tooth - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, University of Queensland |
| Liaison person: | * Dr Katrina Moss - Australian Women and Girls’ Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland |
| Synopsis: | This study collects new data on the experience of preventive healthcare by mothers (1989-95 cohort) and their children, from before conception, through pregnancy and early childhood. This will generate the new knowledge needed to address issues with the effectiveness and delivery of current maternal and child preventive care. In collaboration with doctors, nurses, and the community, the study will make detailed recommendations to improve preventive healthcare, including for disadvantaged women and children.  The MatCHES survey has been developed, and is expected to be deployed to women in the 1989-95 cohort before the end of 2023. |