



## Discipline of Women's Health

# 2025 Annual Report



## Chair's Message

2025 will long be remembered as an incredible year for the GRACE team. Without a doubt, the biggest news was the \$50,000,000 (not a typo with too many '0's – that is 50 million dollars!) philanthropic grant from the Grevillea Foundation to establish the Ainsworth Endometriosis Research Institute – or AERI for short. The grant will see UNSW lead a national consortium to undertake scientific and translational research in Endometriosis and related diseases for the next 10 years. Something that GRACE and our collaborative teams in UNSW are well known for undertaking, and it was a truly collaborative effort that has resulted in this extraordinary gift and an amazing opportunity.

AERI's establishment will mean some changes for GRACE, although it continues to be its own separate identity and will continue with its own governance. A/Prof Rebecca Deans will take on the Chair of GRACE – a move that has been planned for a number of years as I was due to take a year of long service leave (LSL) in 2026. My LSL has been necessarily (but happily) modified as I step into the

Director's role at AERI during its establishment phase. In addition, A/Prof Erin Nesbitt-Hawes continues as the clinical director and will take on the Deputy Chair role for GRACE. There will be a few additional changes that will occur throughout 2026, but most importantly, the team will continue with its outstanding academic work in clinical and scientific gynaecology.

The World Congress of Endometriosis in May 2025 was a further landmark event for the team with the organisation of a hugely successful congress, a bevy of presentations and Hayley Mallinder being awarded for the best Poster Presentation of the meeting. Sydney was buzzing with leading researchers from all over the world and the incredible work of our team was a major contributor to this biennial event.

Our research team have again been in full flight, with Kate Gunther completing her PhD and submitting, Fiona Li just months away from completing hers and Supuni Kapurubandara, Ruth Shubert, Justin Sinclair and Masters of Research student Anais Alonso continuing their programs. Honours student Valencia Tan completed her year under the tutelage of Erin Nesbitt-Hawes and Catherine Downs. New PhD students commencing in 2025 included Nicole Matysiak (UNSW) with external supervision support for Teagan Fisher and Cindy Peng at UTS, Lauren Hoffman at Macquarie and Stella Harris at Liverpool Hospital. The GRACE team want to congratulate long term collaborator and honorary gynaecologist Dr Catherine Downs on her elevation to conjoint Associate Professor. While Catherine is an anaesthetist by training, her contributions to GRACE research for more than 20 years cannot be underestimated. A very well deserved promotion and thank you for all you have done for the team Catherine!

Research output continues to be extraordinary with 30 publications in 2025, 39 presentations and more than 45 media appearances. In addition to the AERI grant funding, our team collaborated in other research grants awarded in 2025 to the tune of nearly \$6 million. This is in addition to the \$11.4 million in funding for current research projects. Under the leadership of Dr Cecilia Ng, The NECST Registry has been completely revamped with a new participant interface, and this marks the final piece of the NECST puzzle now in place.

This is my last message as Chair of GRACE, and I want to thank the entire team for their years of dedication, effort and extraordinary output. This is one of Australia's best academic gynaecology units and it has stood the test of time with an unbelievable track record of excellence, output and delivery of research, policy and innovation in gynaecology. I will enjoy being a part of the team and seeing it grow under the guidance of Rebecca Deans and Erin Nesbitt-Hawes, whose talent and skills will mean GRACE evolves and continues to deliver in this area of women's health.

– Professor Jason Abbott, Chair GRACE Unit



## GRACE Executive Team



**Prof Jason Abbott**  
Chair



**A/Prof Rebecca Deans**  
Deputy Chair



**A/Prof Erin Nesbitt-Hawes**  
Clinical Lead



**Dr Cecilia Ng**  
Research Manager

## GRACE Team



**Dr Anais Alonso**  
Medical Resident



**Dr Aaron Budden**  
O&G Specialist



**Dr Cate Broomfield**  
Research Fellow



**Dr Catherine Downs**  
Specialist  
Cardiothoracic and  
Obstetric Anaesthetist



**Dr Zaynab El-Hamawi**  
O&G Specialist



**Ms Kate Gunther**  
Research Associate



**Brigitte Hodder**  
Research Officer  
(GCRG)



**Dr Supuni Kapurubandara**  
O&G Specialist/PhD  
Candidate



**Dr Blake Knapman**  
O&G Specialist



**Dr David Krones**  
O&G Trainee Fellow



**Dr Fiona Li**  
O&G Registrar



**Dr Basia Lowes**  
O&G Specialist



**Ms Amie Loveland**  
Research Officer



**Dongli Lui**  
Research Fellow



**Ms Nicole Matysiak**  
PhD Candidate



**Dr Lalla McCormack**  
O&G Specialist



**Ms Sophie Olles**  
Research Assistant



**Ms Ruth Schubert**  
Physiotherapist/PhD  
Candidate



**Dr Akshara  
Shyamsunder**  
O&G Trainee Fellow

## Research @ GRACE

### *Endometriosis*

- **National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Network**

A central project of the GRACE team for the last several years has been the development of the NECST Network. It has continued to grow throughout 2025, with the implementation of a new registry system designed to improve user accessibility and functionality. This upgrade enables more accurate capture of participant data and provides a streamlined process for participants to quickly and efficiently complete their annual surveys, supporting stronger long-term data collection and reporting outputs. 2025 has also been another stellar year for participant recruitment with an additional 700+ participants recruited to the Registry.

The NECST Biorepository progress has also grown exponentially this year, with collections of a variety of primary specimens (tissues and biofluids) now over 1,251 from 307 participants. This biorepository will become increasingly important as AERI comes into fruition. It will allow researchers to build a solid understanding of endometriosis biology and pathogenesis, through a precision medicine approach to endometriosis detection, treatment and management.

- **Talking Fertility: Patient perspectives of fertility conversations with health professionals**

Talking Fertility is a new qualitative study exploring fertility-based discussions for people with endometriosis. This is a collaboration with Flinders University (Dr Beck O'Hara), University of Tasmania (A/Prof Lessa van Niekerk) and community representatives (Larissa Bryne and Isabelle Burgess), with funding support from Endometriosis Australia. Whilst some individuals with endometriosis welcome fertility conversations and are concerned about the impact that endometriosis may have on their future family planning, fertility may not be the main priority for everyone. There is therefore a need for resources (our primary outcome) that support such conversations in health care settings between health practitioners and patients, where patients can discuss their preferences. In addition, priority should be placed on healthcare plans that are collaboratively developed, keeping patient goals and preferences central.

To date, 12 interviews have been completed, with inductive content analysis scheduled to commence in early 2026. Findings from this analysis will inform the next phase of the project, which will involve community members and health professionals participating in a focus group to provide feedback. These insights will guide the co-design of practical tools developed collaboratively by researchers, clinicians, and community members.

- **Patient-derived epithelial cell organoids mimic the phenotypic complexity of endometriosis subtypes**

This study, presented at the World Congress on Endometriosis in 2025, reports the first successful generation of patient-derived organoid models from superficial endometriosis lesions, as well as from extra pelvic sites including the bladder wall, fallopian tube, and diaphragm. By extending organoid technology beyond endometrioma and deep infiltrating disease, this work addresses a major gap in preclinical endometriosis modelling and captures the anatomical diversity of endometriosis, which has been largely inaccessible to study experimentally.

These models preserve key epithelial characteristics of the originating tissue, supporting their relevance for mechanistic and therapeutic investigations. The ability to establish viable models from diverse endometriosis lesions allowed us to investigate emerging morphological differences in these lesions, which may help explain the differences in phenotype behaviour and symptomology. Collectively, this work establishes a foundation for anatomically informed, patient-specific lab models of endometriosis, and may accelerate personalised medicine approaches in endometriosis.

#### ***Other endometriosis projects***

- Medical management in endometriosis: Does class of medication predict compliance rates?
- Surgical management in endometriosis: Clinical outcomes of women treated with and without hysterectomy
- Environmental factors and the severity of endometriosis symptoms
- Clinically integrated tissue microarrays aligning histological and patient-centred data for advancing personalized endometriosis care
- Differences in pelvic floor morphometry for women with persistent pelvic pain and deep invasive endometriosis
- Endometriosis is not the Endometrium: Reviewing the Overrepresentation of Eutopic Endometrium in Endometriosis Research

#### ***Benign gynaecology***

- Psychological impact of vaginal dilation
- Vaginismus after hymenectomy
- Women's experiences with diagnosis and management of vaginal symptoms of menopause: a mixed methods study
- Understanding women's preferences in management of vaginal symptoms associated with menopause: a discrete choice experiment
- The Psychological and Relational Impact of Mayer-Rokitansky-Kuster-Hauser Syndrome: Perspectives of Patients, Parents and Partners

## ***Uterus transplantation (UTx)***

- **Psychological Assessment and Motivations of Potential Donors Within the First Australian Uterine Transplant Trial**

This ongoing trial has continued to progress throughout this year. 2025 saw the publication of “Psychological Assessment and Motivations of Potential Donors Within the First Australian Uterine Transplant Trial”. A mixed methods study, using semi-structured interviews, aimed to evaluate self-referred potential uterus donors for the UTx program.

Thematic analysis was conducted which identified six key themes; 1) feelings about donating a uterus, 2) health history, 3) informed consent, 4) impact of donation, 5) relationships, and 6) access to educational resources. Several sub-themes were also identified, including awareness of surgical complications and dynamics of relationships and sexuality. Quantitative results indicated clinical levels of depression, anxiety, and stress in some donors. Overall, the quality-of-life scores of the donors were comparable to those of the general Australian female population.

The study provides a deeper understanding of the psychological profiles and motivations of potential UTx donors in Australia. It reveals the complexity of donor motivations, which include altruistic desires to help others experience pregnancy, as well as practical considerations. The findings highlight the need for rigorous psychological screening and continuous support to address possible mental health challenges that may arise.

## **GRACE achievements**



### ***Awards***

- 16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025), Sydney, Australia 21-24 May 2025
  - Best Poster Presentation by an Early Career Researcher – **Hayley Mallinder**
- Randwick Clinical Campus Publication Awards 2025
  - Higher Degree Researcher Category – **Fiona Li**

## Presentations

### AGES

- Deans R. **Deceased Donor Uterus Transplantation: Public Perceptions Towards Including the Uterus as Part of The Current Multi-Organ Donation Program.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025
- Deans R. **Mullerian Anomalies.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025
- Li F. **Understanding Patient Decision-Making Factors in Management of Postmenopausal Vaginal Symptoms - A Discrete Choice Experiment.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025 (poster)
- Shyamsunder A. **Repeat Botox Injections for Treatment of Chronic Pelvic Pain and Pelvic Floor Overactivity.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025
- Shyamsunder A. **Deep Infiltrating Endometriotic Bladder Nodule - A Stepwise Approach & Excision.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025
- El-Hamawi Z. **A Randomised Controlled Trial of Hysteroscopic Morcellation Versus Electrosurgical Resection for Submucosal Leiomyomas in Women With AUB-L.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025
- Ng C. **Patterns Of Care for Patients with Endometriosis in The National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting*, Perth, WA, 27 February- 1 March 2025 (poster)

### 16th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)

- Abbott J. **Diagnosis of Endometriosis, why it is important and what we need to do.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (Chairman)
- Deans R. **Pelvic pain and Ryequo in Adolescence.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (Invited speaker)
- Ng C. **Endometriosis in an Indigenous Australian Population: Findings from the National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025
- Knapman B. **Investigating Immediate Pain and Post-Surgical Recovery Following Laparoscopic Surgery for Diagnosis or Treatment of Endometriosis: A Prospective Cohort Study.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025
- Gunther K. **Growing all Types of Endometriosis: The Development of Phenotype-Specific Organoid Models of Endometriosis for Preclinical Research.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025
- Guo B. **Creation of Clinically Informed Tissue Microarrays (TMAs) of Endometriosis.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025
- Mallinder H. **First Laparoscopy in an Adolescent and Young Adult Female Population and its Association with Chronic Pelvic Pain: A Sub Study.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 **PRIZE WINNER**



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- Paul R. **Cumulative Live Birth Rates in Women with Endometriosis Undergoing ART Treatment.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025
- Broomfield C. **Medical Management in Endometriosis: Does Class of Medication Predict Compliance Rates at 12- and 24-Months After Beginning Treatment?** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Broomfield C. - **Hysterectomy Should not be Described as the 'Definitive' Procedure for Treating Patients with Endometriosis.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Alonso A. **Diagnostic accuracy of transvaginal ultrasound for endometriosis does not differ between women with previous surgical endometriosis treatment and those undergoing their first laparoscopy.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Shyamsunder A. **Decreasing the Negative Laparoscopy Rate for Pelvic Pain: Specialist Versus Generalist Trained Endoscopists. The Australian Public and Private Healthcare Sectors.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Knapman B. **A Feasibility Study to Examine the Link Between Longitudinal Environmental Exposure and Endometriosis Phenotype.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Tan V. **What is the Prevalence of Pelvic Floor Tension Myalgia and Pelvic Floor Myalgia in Patients Presenting with Endometriosis?** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- El-Hamawi Z. **Utilising Changes in Circulating Cell-Free DNA During Menstruation as a Biomarker for Endometriosis.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Kapurubandara S. **"What I am seeking is pain relief, I am not seeking drugs": Lived Experiences with Pelvic Pain and Endometriosis.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Gunther K. - **The Potential of ROR1 as a Novel Therapeutic Target for Endometriosis.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia 21-24 May 2025 (poster)
- Ng C. - **Patterns of Care for Patients with Endometriosis in the National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry.** *16<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE 2025)*, Sydney, Australia, 21-24 May 2025 (poster)

#### American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL)

- Broomfield C. **Hysterectomy should not be described as the 'definitive' procedure for treating patients with endometriosis.** *AAGL 54th Global Congress*, Vancouver, Canada, 8-11 November 2025
- Shyamsunder A. **Deep Infiltrating Endometriotic Bladder Nodule - A Stepwise Approach & Excision.** *AAGL 54th Global Congress*, Vancouver, Canada, 8-11 November 2025 (Poster)
- Shyamsunder A. **The Incidence of Negative Laparoscopy for Pelvic Pain Stratified by Level of Training and Location of Service Provision.** *AAGL 54th Global Congress*, Vancouver, Canada, 8-11 November 2025 (Poster)
- Krones D.

#### Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE)



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- Deans R. **Deceased Donor Uterus Transplantation: Religious Perceptions.** *14th Congress of the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE)*, Singapore, 1 – 4 May 2025 (poster)

HealthEd: The Annual Women's and Children's Health Update

- Deans R. **Adolescent pelvic pain.** *HealthEd: The Annual Women's and Children's Health Update*, Sydney, Australia, 10 May 2025 (Invited speaker)

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS ASM)

- Deans R. **Uterine Transplant.** *93rd Annual Scientific Congress of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons*, Sydney, Australia, 3-6 May 2025 (Invited speaker)

Mayer-Rokitansky-Küster-Hauser (MRKH) Support Group Meeting – Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney, NSW, 21 June 2025

- Deans R. **Uterine Transplant Update.**

Royal Hospital for Women 2025 Symposium

- Deans R. **Uterine Transplant.**
- Broomfield C. **Hysterectomy should not be considered 'definitive' for endometriosis.**
- Gunther K. **How tissue models can change how we think about endometriosis.**
- Shyamsunder A. **Botox to the pelvic floor for refractory pelvic pain.**
- Li F. **Understanding Patient Decision-Making Factors in Management of Postmenopausal Vaginal Symptoms - A Discrete Choice Experiment.**

## GRACE in the news

Financial review - [Ainsworth family step up with \\$50m gift for endometriosis research at UNSW](#)

Australian Coalition for Endometriosis - [National Peak Body Welcomes Historic Investment in Endometriosis Research and Launch of Dedicated Institute – Australian Coalition for Endometriosis](#)

UNSW - [UNSW endometriosis centre funded by Ainsworth to tune of \\$50m](#)

AAP - [Lived experience drives \\$50 million endometriosis gift](#)

Endometriosis Australia [Endometriosis Australia welcomes \\$50 million commitment to research - Endometriosis Australia](#)

Seven Noon News - [Instant-play on Stream](#)

MSN - [Record gift gives hope to women with painful condition](#)

Health Services Daily - [\\$50m donation funds endometriosis research institute | Health Services Daily](#)

ABC News - [Endometriosis research institute to be set up in Sydney after record-breaking \\$50m donation - ABC News](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald - [UNSW endometriosis centre funded by Ainsworth to tune of \\$50m](#)

The Examiner - [Record gift gives hope to women with painful condition | The Examiner | Launceston, TAS](#)



Women's Agenda - [\\$50 million for new endometriosis research institute](#)

Port Macquarie News [Record gift gives hope to women with painful condition | Port Macquarie News | Port Macquarie, NSW](#)

She gives - [Anna and Lily Ainsworth: On what it takes to change the story of endometriosis - She Gives](#)

Noble Ambition <https://nobleambition.com.au/resources/news/landmark-donation-to-power-world-first-endometriosis-research-institute-at-unsw/>

Inside UNSW - [\\$50m for endometriosis research, UNSW researchers tackle housing crisis, and a warm T2 welcome – 27 May 2025 | Inside UNSW](#)

Honi Soit - [\\$50 million donation to set up endometriosis research institute at UNSW - Honi Soit](#)

Femtech Insider - <https://femtechinsider.com/major-endometriosis-research-institute-established-at-unsw-sydney-with-historic-50m-donation/>

Medianet. - [Tuesday 20 May: \\$50M donation to establish world-first Endometriosis Research Institute - News Hub](#)

Candid: Philanthropy News Digest - [UNSW Sydney receives \\$32 million for endometriosis research institute | Philanthropy news | PND](#)

Philanthropy Australia [Historic \\$50m Ainsworth family gift for endometriosis research 'shows what's possible in leadership for women's giving' - Philanthropy Australia](#)

City Hub <https://cityhub.com.au/unsw-endometriosis-research-funded-by-gambling-giant-family/>

The Guardian <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2025/jun/25/tricky-ethical-space-endometriosis-centre-funded-by-family-with-links-to-poker-machine-giant-divides-experts-ntwnfb>

The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia <https://www.gg.gov.au/about-governor-general/media/speech-afternoon-tea-professor-john-pollaers-oam-convenor-university-chancellors-council>

The Sydney Morning Herald <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/victoria/wild-with-rage-it-took-jacinta-allan-more-than-a-decade-to-learn-the-source-of-her-pain-20250520-p5m0p1.html>

The Age <https://media.streem.com.au/restricted/0rQ28LIJ62?region=au&locale=en-US>

WA Today <https://www.watoday.com.au/politics/nsw/why-women-deserve-to-be-treated-seriously-when-they-are-in-pain-20250522-p5m1cr.html>

Lab + Life Scientist <https://www.labonline.com.au/content/lab-business/news/-50m-donation-for-new-endometriosis-research-institute-507434959>

The Courier Mail <https://www.couriermail.com.au/lifestyle/ainsworth-endometriosis-research-institute-unsw/image-gallery/8b0e7a7bed2df87d77eec0a22042947f?btr=4ead77cd7be6325fae37e66e8c810484&page=1>

Body + Soul <https://www.bodyandsoul.com.au/health/womens-health/ainsworth-endometriosis-research-institute-unsw/image-gallery/8b0e7a7bed2df87d77eec0a22042947f?cspt=1752466715%7C2e425892157c343b7b7f67873b9aac6f&page=1>

Health Times <https://healthtimes.com.au/hub/womens-health/58/news/aap/record-gift-gives-hope-to-women-with-painful-condition/9396/>



Moruya Mail <https://media.streem.com.au/restricted/8YRg0zhm6k?region=au&locale=en-US>

Hawkesbury Gazette <https://www.hawkesburygazette.com.au/story/8971410/record-gift-gives-hope-to-women-with-painful-condition/>

The Daily Mail <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/aap/article-14729989/Record-gift-gives-hope-women-painful-condition.html>

Harvey-Waroon Reporter [https://www.harveyreporter.com.au/news/health/lived-experience-drives-50-million-endometriosis-gift-c-18752678?utm\\_source=csp&utm\\_medium=portal&utm\\_campaign=Streem&token=ws3jQUlymwQkP3t hutEJaQkV3AaG0UqomNxxHqoNqLF93Q1ya%2FsMpwPMbpUpNgT8VolqmJrIRDhO8aYC23norg%3D%3D](https://www.harveyreporter.com.au/news/health/lived-experience-drives-50-million-endometriosis-gift-c-18752678?utm_source=csp&utm_medium=portal&utm_campaign=Streem&token=ws3jQUlymwQkP3t hutEJaQkV3AaG0UqomNxxHqoNqLF93Q1ya%2FsMpwPMbpUpNgT8VolqmJrIRDhO8aYC23norg%3D%3D)

Sound Telegraph [https://www.soundtelegraph.com.au/news/health/lived-experience-drives-50-million-endometriosis-gift-c-18752678?utm\\_source=csp&utm\\_medium=portal&utm\\_campaign=Streem&token=ws3jQUlymwQkP3t hutEJaQkV3AaG0UqomNxxHqoNqLF93Q1ya%2FsMpwPMbpUpNgT8VolqmJrIRDhO8aYC23norg%3D%3D](https://www.soundtelegraph.com.au/news/health/lived-experience-drives-50-million-endometriosis-gift-c-18752678?utm_source=csp&utm_medium=portal&utm_campaign=Streem&token=ws3jQUlymwQkP3t hutEJaQkV3AaG0UqomNxxHqoNqLF93Q1ya%2FsMpwPMbpUpNgT8VolqmJrIRDhO8aYC23norg%3D%3D)

Jimboomba Times <https://www.jimboombatimes.com.au/story/8971410/record-gift-gives-hope-to-women-with-painful-condition/>

Brisbane Times <https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/healthcare/it-took-six-years-to-diagnose-adele-with-endometriosis-a-50m-donation-aims-to-end-the-wait-20250514-p5lz80.html>

Sydney Morning Herald <https://www.smh.com.au/national/olivia-s-extreme-pain-was-fobbed-off-by-10-doctors-they-all-missed-the-golf-ball-sized-lump-20250827-p5mqbg.html>

ScienceAdviser [ScienceAdviser: Stars are like onions | Science | AAAS](#)

Medical Republic [Australia a world leader in endo - Medical Republic](#)

ABC podcast Ladies We Need to Talk. <https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/ladies-we-need-to-talk/endometriosis-ladies-we-need-to-talk/105802854>

Jason Abbott Heavy Menstrual Bleeding 101: Causes, Context, and Clinical Guidelines. Webinar: Creating guidance documents for Heavy Menstrual Bleeding. [https://youtu.be/Ub\\_AOZpT7mo](https://youtu.be/Ub_AOZpT7mo)

Rebecca Deans, Community Radio Interview - Radio Adelaide's edition of The Wire. Research and data revealed around Australia's first live term birth following uterus transplantation. [The Wire - Radio Adelaide](#) 23 Oct 2025

## **Publications**

Abbott, J., Black, K., Marles E., (2025) **Letter to the editor: Updating the diagnosis and management of iron deficiency in the era of routine ferritin testing of blood donors by Australian Red Cross Lifeblood.** *Medical Journal of Australia*, 222(8), p.422.

Abbott, J., Black, K.I. and Marles, E., (2025) **Updating the diagnosis and management of iron deficiency in the era of routine ferritin testing of blood donors by Australian Red Cross Lifeblood.** *Medical Journal of Australia*, 222(8), p.422.

Abbott, J.A. and Frishman, G.N., (2025) **The pathway of a prevalent pathology from guidance to standards-the ongoing burden of leiomyomas.** *Journal of minimally invasive gynecology*, pp.S1553-4650.



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Armstrong, G., Abbott, J. and Deans, R., (2025) **Fertility and Obstetric Outcomes in Asherman Syndrome: Assessing the Impact of Hyaluronic Acid Post-Hysteroscopic Adhesiolysis.** *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*.

Brania, N., Adler, H., Richardson, E., Ng, C., O'Hara, R., Pirotta, S., Schubert, R., Trainor Parker, L. and Van Niekerk, L., (2025) **Debunking the “mystical condition” of endometriosis: What people living with endometriosis want you to truly understand.** *Women's Reproductive Health*, pp.1-17.

Caponas, G., Deans, R., Letafat, S., Stewart, I., Brännström, M., Abbott, J. and Downs, C., (2025) **“This is how we do it” Anaesthesia for uterine transplant and associated surgeries: the Australian-Swedish collaborative protocol.** *International Journal of Obstetric Anesthesia*, p.104800.

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## GRACE Medicine Honours Students



**Sophie Dien**

*"My year with the GRACE team was a deeply formative experience that broadened my perspective on the interconnectedness of clinical care and research. From the outset, the team's warmth and encouragement created an environment where I felt supported to embrace new opportunities - participating in clinics, scrubbing into surgeries, and presenting at journal club. Through their guidance and feedback, I developed greater confidence in statistical analysis and critical appraisal of scientific literature, along with a deep appreciation for the rigour and creativity of the research process.*

*Completing my Honours project, "Pain outcomes and medication compliance over two years in individuals with endometriosis," allowed me to apply these skills while deepening my understanding of the field. Being immersed in this research environment made me more attuned to emerging questions and evolving approaches in gynaecology.*

*I am deeply grateful to my supervisors and the entire GRACE team for their generous mentorship, and I will carry these insights forward throughout my career in medicine and academia."*