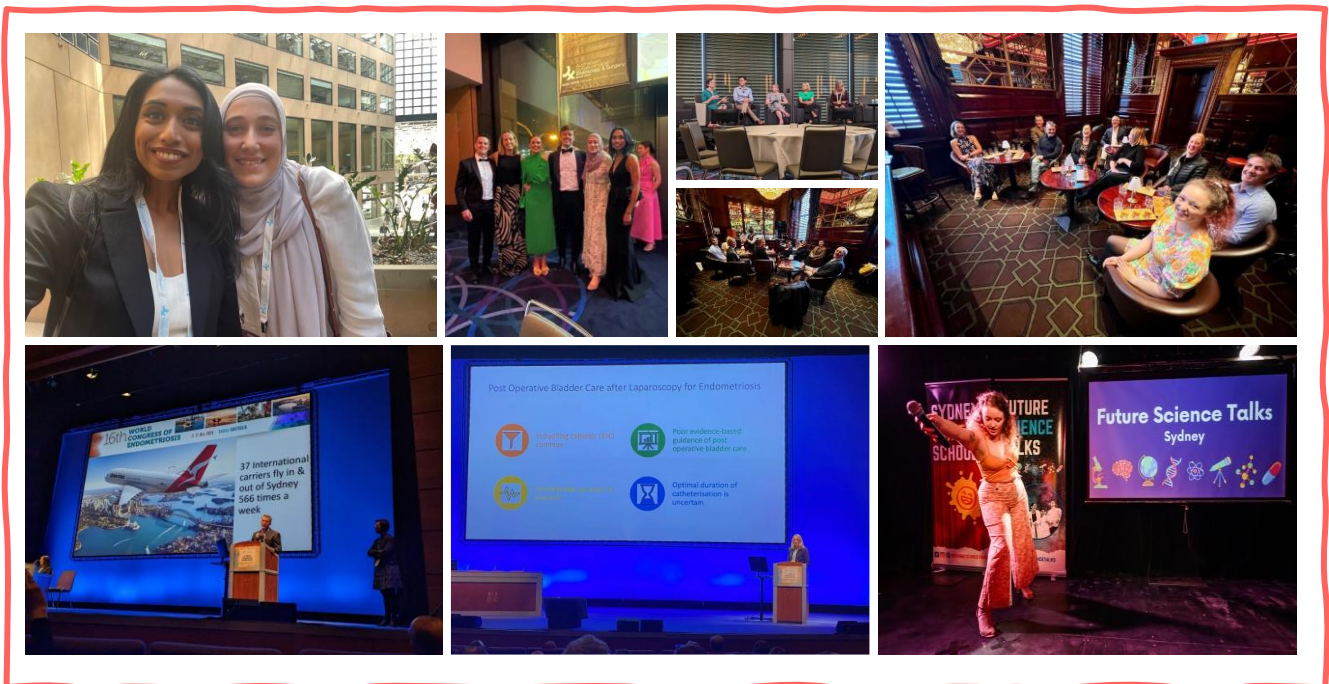


2023 Annual Report



Introduction

It is with great pride in the GRACE team that I write the lead in to our 2023 annual report. In one of the busiest years on record, the team have had a truly stellar course over this last 12 months. Highlights from the year would be the first uterus transplant performed in Australia in a huge inter-disciplinary team led by Dr Rebecca Deans in January. This is only topped by the delivery of baby Henry to mum Kirsty and dad Nick in December the same year following that transplantation. This is the world's shortest transplant-to-delivery time interval, and could only be achieved with the decade of work that Rebecca put into the set-up of this study and the support of new Research Fellow Brigitte Gerstl and PhD student Jana Pittman. While they are not the only team members (in what is a very, very big team), they have both made major contributions to the incredible work that it took to achieve this success. To follow more on this program, read on.

Most definitely related to this success, Dr Rebecca Deans was also promoted and as of January 1, 2024, is now Associate Professor Rebecca Deans. Rebecca's achievement cannot be overstated, and she was additionally awarded the NSW Woman of the Year, Woman of Excellence for her academic

work in the areas of paediatric and adolescent gynaecology, uterus transplantation and Asherman syndrome. It is a pleasure and a privilege to have Rebecca as an integral part of our team.

The GRACE tagline has never been truer, with international collaborations with the USA and Canada producing parallel systematic reviews for Endometriosis Patient Reported Outcome Measures led by Professor Rosanne Kho from University of Arizona. The team has had a fantastic output of publications, presentations and awards this year in the area of study. The continued dedication and hard work of the PhD students, fellows, Honours students and the executive team who oversee all of these projects is the reason for our success.

Finally, GRACE members have produced International Guidelines, directed the Clinical Care Standards for Heavy Menstrual Bleeding and provided advice to Government on a range of Women's Health issues. While it will be hard to top the numbers (both firsts and the sheer volume of work) in 2024, we will of course try (or rather, I will push the team hard to try!), much more important is the goal of improving the lives of our patients through scientific excellence and our commitment to patient care.

– Professor Jason Abbott, Chair GRACE Unit

GRACE Executive Team



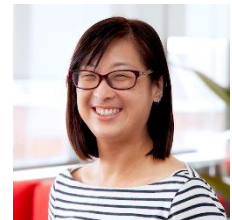
Prof Jason Abbott
Chair



A/Prof Rebecca Deans
Deputy Chair



Dr Erin Nesbitt-Hawes
Clinical Lead



Dr Cecilia Ng
Research Manager

GRACE Team



Dr Anais Alonso
Medical Intern



Dr Aaron Budden
O&G Specialist



Dr Zaynab El-Hamawi
O&G Trainee Fellow



Dr Brigitte Gerstl
Research Fellow



Ms Kate Gunther
PhD Candidate



Dr Supuni Kapurubandara
O&G Specialist/PhD Candidate (Westmead Hospital)



Dr Neill Kiely
O&G Trainee Fellow



Dr Blake Knapman
O&G Specialist



Dr Fiona Li
O&G Registrar



Dr Basia Lowes
O&G Specialist



Dr Lalla McCormack
O&G Specialist



Ms Adriana Meneses-Gonzalez
Research Assistant



Dr Kimberley Nguyen
Medical Resident



Dr Jana Pittman
O&G Resident



Ms Elyse Powell
Research Assistant



Ms Ruth Schubert
Physiotherapist/PhD Candidate



Dr Madeleine Sheppard
O&G Trainee Fellow



Dr Akshara Shyamsunder
O&G Trainee Fellow

Research @ GRACE

Endometriosis

- National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Network

2023 saw the transfer of the NECST Network from its original home, under the management of Jean Hailes for Women's Health to UNSW Medicine and Health. This coincided with the announcement from the Federal Government Department of Health and Aged Care awarding funding to support the continuation of the NECST Network to deliver on the 2023 – 2026 Strategic Plan to build research capacity and capability and ongoing management and data support of the NECST Registry.

We newly formed a Clinical and Scientific Steering Committee, who are represented by clinicians (gynaecological surgeons, infertility specialist), scientists (biomedicine and geneticist, cancer cell biologist), epidemiologist and allied and complementary health practitioners (e.g., clinical psychologists, physiotherapist, traditional Chinese medicine, nurse) and we had our inaugural meeting in H2 of 2023. Groundwork on the process and awarding of scholarships for the NECST PhD and Post-doctoral Research Fellowships has been drafted and 2024 will see support for new and emerging researchers in endometriosis.

The NECST Registry, a key product of Network activities, achieved over 1,700 registered participants since it went live in December 2020 and have maintained approximately 50% retention at all follow-up time-points. We published our NECST Registry establishment protocol,



to provide not only a blueprint for consistent data collection, but to allow pathways for international collaborations to compare differences (and similarities) between populations; and presented preliminary quality of life findings at national and international conferences.

- Australian Endometriosis Clinicians Collaborative (AECC)

The AECC, is our research program developed to address evidence gaps in diagnostic imaging, what is the quality-of-life impact between medical vs surgical interventions and what are the cost-benefits between medical vs surgical interventions. This involves collaborations between 6 major interstate sites across QLD, NSW, VIC, SA and WA, in addition to qualitative, scientific and health economic experts and researchers from the University of Queensland, University of Technology Sydney and Western Sydney University and endometriosis-patient representatives. Ethics amendments and governance approvals saw recruitment initiated at 4 out of our 6 sites. Furthermore, we have established protocols and started collection to a federated national biorepository of biosamples for endometriosis, and includes various tissue types, blood, peritoneal fluid and urine. The NECST Biorepository will be rolled out to collaborating sites during 2024 following site governance approvals.

- EndoLinked: Identifying fertility outcomes for women with endometriosis

Our data linkage study exploring assisted reproductive technology (ART) outcomes for women diagnosed with endometriosis, will utilise existing State, National and Commonwealth health datasets to develop newer and richer datasets for endometriosis. The datasets that will be linked to provide answers to understanding birth rates, pregnancy success, impact of patient and treatment factors are immensely complex and nuanced and the epidemiological and data analyst team (collaborators at the UNSW Centre for Big Data Research in Health, led by Prof Georgina Chambers and include Research Fellow Brigitte Gerstl) have been toiling through data dictionaries to develop the data linkage protocols and associated ethics amendments and applications.

- Randomised controlled trial comparing medical and surgical management in adolescents and young adults.

Commencing in 2017, this randomised controlled trial (RCT) investigates the effect of laparoscopy on chronic pelvic pain in adolescents and young adults aged 16-25 years. The overarching aim of this RCT is to assess the reduction in persistent pelvic pain. In 2019 an observational arm was added to the study to capture those patients who declined randomisation. To date there have been 13 (non-surgical) and 16 (surgical) in the randomisation arm, with a total of 39 (non-surgical) and 45 (surgical) recruited.

- Other endometriosis projects

- Bladder function following endometriosis surgery.
- Endometriosis recovery study.
- Preclinical models for the identification of new treatments for endometriosis.
- Environmental risk factors in endometriosis.
- Management of adenomyosis.

Uterus transplantation

This trial investigates the feasibility of uterus transplantation in the Australian context for women with uterine factor infertility. To date 3 surgeries have been performed, with 2 pregnancies and 1 live birth. The study will continue in 2024, with the deceased donor commencing next year.



Benign gynaecology

- Discrete choice experiment – exploring women’s preferences in management of postmenopausal vaginal symptoms.
- Repeat CO₂ laser treatment for postmenopausal vaginal symptoms – a prospective study.
- Underneath the microscope: Negative laparoscopy in pelvic pain.
Aims to identify the rate of negative diagnostic laparoscopy in pelvic pain and what patient, surgeon and clinical factors are more associated with negative diagnostic laparoscopy.
- Asherman’s and adhesion barriers.
- Qualitative study on the lived experience of women with persistent pelvic pain.
- Myometrial Botox injection for the management of dysmenorrhoea.

GRACE achievements



Awards

- 2023 NSW Women of the Year Awards, Woman of Excellence Award – **A/Prof Rebecca Deans**
- Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 2023 ASM, Sydney, NSW
 - Best Free Communication Presentation – **Anais Alonso**
 - Outstanding New Presenter – **Joyce Wu**
 - Best Free Digital Communication – **Cecilia Ng**
- Prince of Wales and Women's Health 5-minute HDR Presentation Prize – **Kate Gunther**

Presentations

- Abbott J. **Keynote – What is the role of surgery for endometriosis?** Kolkata, India, 9 December 2023
- Abbott J. **An update on the Endometriosis Guidelines.** *Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) Regional Symposium*, Hobart, TAS, 1 April 2023.
- Abbott J. **Are we getting better at early diagnosis? Does early diagnosis matter?** *PB Endometriosis*, Brisbane, QLD, 26 October 2023 **Invited Speaker**
- Abbott J. **Implementation of the Priorities and Actions in the NAPE.** *Australian Department of Health*, 3 August 2023
- Abbott J. **Endometriosis in those assigned female at birth.** *AGES/AAGL Affiliated Society Focus Meeting*, Bangkok Thailand, 6 July 2023 **Invited Speaker**
- Abbott J. **Endometriosis: Modern management.** *DRANZCOG Seminar*, 18 April 2023, **Invited Speaker**

- Abbott J, Deans R. **Uterus transplantation**. *ASPIRE 2023 Congress*, Adelaide, SA, 7-10 September 2023
- Abbott J. **The timing and limitations of surgery for endometriosis**. *Australasian Sexual Health and Reproductive Medicine Annual Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 20 September 2023 **Invited Speaker**
- Abbott J. **Reproductive surgery**. *13th Congress of the Pacific Society of Reproductive Medicine*, Sydney, NSW, 12-14 March 2023
- Abbott J. **Keynote – Can we solve endometriosis with surgery**. *The International Society for Gynecologic Endoscopy (ISGE) Annual Meeting*, Dead Sea, Israel, 17-18 February 2023
- Abbott J. **Keynote – How to get published in gynaecology**. *The International Society for Gynecologic Endoscopy (ISGE) Annual Meeting*, Dead Sea, Israel, 17-18 February 2023
- Abbott J. **Keynote – Becoming a gynaecological surgeon**. *The International Society for Gynecologic Endoscopy (ISGE) Annual Meeting*, Dead Sea, Israel, 17-18 February 2023
- Abbott J. **Update on endometriosis centres in Australia**. *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023
- Alonso A. **A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial of antibiotic prophylaxis in elective nonhysterectomy laparoscopic surgery for benign gynaecological conditions – A pilot study**. *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023 **PRIZE WINNER**
- Budden A. **Reducing the impact of surgery**. *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023
- Ciccia D, Doyle AK, Ng CHM, and Armour M. **Indigenous peoples' experience and understanding of menstrual health – A scoping review**. *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE)*, Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023
- Cole S, Deans R, Caponas G, Hargreaves C, Watterson L, and Downs C. **Anaesthesia for uterus transplantation: The first Australian experience**. *Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists. (ANZCA) Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM)*, Sydney, NSW, 5-9 May 2023
- Deans R. **Uterine transplantation use in cancer survivors**. *13th Congress of the Pacific Society for Reproductive Medicine (PSRM)*, Sydney, NSW, 12-14 March 2023
- Deans R. **Disorders of Puberty**. *Merck Certified Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (CREI) Trainee Weekend*, 26 March 2023
- Deans R. **Educational forum webinar – Uterus transplantation**. 4 May 2023
- Deans R. **RHW & UNSW Uterus transplant program**. *Randwick Research Council*, 11 May 2023
- Deans R. **Uterus transplant**. *Growing Families Annual National Conference*, Melbourne, VIC, 17-18 June 2023
- Deans R, Pittman J, Abbott JA, Brännström M. **The first Australian uterus transplantation procedure**. *41st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ)*, Brisbane, QLD, 18-20 June 2023
- Deans R. **Uterus transplantation**. *Australia and New Zealand Society of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (ANZREI) Conference*, Sydney, NSW, 22 July 2023
- Deans R. **Australia's first uterus transplant**. *Women in IVF – Merck*, 15 August 2023
- Deans R. **Australia's 1st uterus transplant**. *Fertility Nurses Forum*, 11 November 2023



- Deans R. **Leading Australia's first uterine transplant.** *SESLHD Annual Public Meeting, Sydney, NSW, 1 December 2023*
- Gunther K, Ng C, Ford C and Abbott J. **Guiding precision medicine research in endometriosis and adenomyosis via a clinically-informed tissue microarray (TMA).** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE), Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023*
- Gunther K, Liu DL, Powell E, Deans R, Abbott J and Ford C. **The development of phenotype-specific organoid models of endometriosis for therapeutic targeting.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE), Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023*
- Hsueh W, Pittman J, Brännström M, Gerstl B, Abbott J, Pleass H, Cavazzoni E, Lotz M, Rogers N, Wong G, Hanafy A, Kiely N, Deans R. **A study protocol for live and deceased donor uterus transplantation as a treatment for absolute uterine factor infertility.** *41st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ), Brisbane, QLD, 18-20 June 2023*
- Knapman B, McCormack L, Ng C, McKinnon B, Meneses Gonzalez A, Montgomery G, Abbott J and Mortlock S. **A feasibility study to examine the link between longitudinal environmental exposure and endometriosis phenotype.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE), Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023*
- Lim C, Alonso A, Koh YY, Roydhouse S, McCormack LJ, Deans R, Nesbitt-Hawes E, Rao A and Abbott J. **A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial of antibiotic prophylaxis in elective nonhysterectomy laparoscopic surgery for benign gynaecological conditions – A pilot study.** *American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL) 2023 Global Congress on Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (MIGS), Nashville, USA, 5-8 November 2023*
- McCormack L. **The numbers speak for themselves.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023*
- McCormack LJ, Song S, Budden A, Ma CH, Nguyen K, Li FG, Lim C, Maheux-Lacroix S, Arnold A, Deans R, Won H, Knapman B, Nesbitt-Hawes E and Abbott J. **Immediate versus delayed urine catheter removal following non-hysterectomy benign gynecological laparoscopy: A randomised trial.** *American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL) 2023 Global Congress on Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (MIGS), Nashville, USA, 5-8 November 2023*
- Ng C, Meneses-Gonzalez A, Knapman B, Lee J, Briggs N, Michelmore A, Mishra G, Montgomery G, Rogers P and Abbott J. **EndoPROMs: Patient-reported outcomes for the first 1000 participants from the Australian National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023* **PRIZE WINNER**
- Ng C, Meneses-Gonzalez A, Knapman B, Lee J, Briggs N, Michelmore A, Mishra G, Montgomery G, Rogers P and Abbott J. **EndoPROMs: Patient-reported outcomes for the first 1000 participants from the Australian National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE), Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023*
- Ng C, Morgan P and Abbott J. **Improving data management and interoperability of the Australian National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE), Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023*
- Nguyen K. **A Prospective Study of Bladder Function following Endometriosis Surgery with up to 8 years Follow-up.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE), Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023*



- Nguyen T. Using diode laser in the surgical management of submucosal fibroids and endometrial polyps versus traditional techniques: A retrospective study. *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023
- Shyamsunder A. **Rare case of post procedural pyomyoma.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023
- Shyamsunder A. **Rare case of omental ectopic pregnancy.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023
- Shyamsunder A. **Stress urinary incontinence – Not that simple.** *AGES Striving to Thrive: Beyond the Pelvis Symposium 2023*, Melbourne, VIC, 20-21 October 2023
- Sirohi D, O'Hara R, Ng CHM, Bidargaddi N, Slater H, Parker M, Hull ML. **Best quality m-health apps for endometriosis care.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE)*, Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023
- Sirohi D, O'Hara R, Ng CHM, Bidargaddi N, Slater H, Parker M, Hull ML. **Best quality e-health websites for information on endometriosis.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE)*, Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023
- Van Niekerk L, Ng C, Armour M, O'Hara R, Leonardi M, Evans S and Mikocka-Walus A. **An evaluation of body image, sexual function and psychological wellbeing outcomes following laparoscopic surgery for endometriosis.** *15th World Congress on Endometriosis (WCE)*, Scotland, UK, 3-6 May 2023
- Wu J. **Uterus transplantation: Clinical and ethical considerations of current and emerging clinicians.** *Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery (AGES) Society 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting*, Sydney, NSW, 9-11 March 2023 **PRIZE WINNER**

Publications

Abbott, J. (2023). **Little Evidence to Support Lasers for 'Vaginal Rejuvenation'.** *Medscape*. 7 February 2023.

Abbott, J., M. Billow, T. Gallant, L. Hackett, R. M. Kho, B. Knapman, M. A. L. Russo, S. Maheux-Lacroix, A. Meneses Gonzalez, C. Ng, M. S. Orlando, A. Sit and X. Xu (2023). **Patient-Reported Outcome Measures Used in Randomized Controlled Trials Following Surgical Intervention for Endometriosis: A Structured Review from the AAGL Practice Guidelines Group.** *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology*.

Abbott, J. A. (2023). **Australia's first National Action Plan on endometriosis: Progress but still a long way to go.** *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*.

Abbott, J. A. (2023). **The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Endometriosis Guidelines.** *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology* **30**(5): 342-343.

Abbott, J. A. (2023). **Minimally Invasive, Non-Surgical Treatments of Leiomyomas.** *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology* **30**(4): 249-250.

Abbott, J. A. (2023). **A New Dawn, or the Sunset on Science? Artificial intelligence and JMIG.** *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology* **30**(5): 337-338.

Abbott, J. A. and G. Frishman (2023). **Welcome to the JMIG Version 5.0.** *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology* **30**(8): 597-598.



Abbott, J. A. and M. G. Munro (2023). **Evidence gaps for the global problem of iron deficiency and iron deficiency anemia in women and girls of reproductive age.** International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics **162**(S2): 89-92.

Armour, M., D. Ciccica, A. Yazdani, L. Rombauts, L. V. Niekerk, R. Schubert and J. Abbott (2023). **Endometriosis research priorities in Australia.** Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology **n/a**(n/a).

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Budden, A., S. Song, A. Henry, C. E. Wakefield and J. Abbott (2023). **A systematic review of biological changes in surgeons' acute stress levels during surgery.** Surgery in Practice and Science **13**: 100174.

Budden, A. K., S. Song, A. Henry, E. Nesbitt-Hawes, C. E. Wakefield and J. A. Abbott (2023). **Acute Biological Changes in Gynecologic Surgeons during Surgery: A Prospective Study.** Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology **30**(10): 841-849.

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Cardailiac, C., J. Abbott and S. Maheux-Lacroix (2023). **Authors' Reply.** Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology **30**(10): 852-853.

Cardailiac, C., R. Genest, C. Gauthier, K. Arendas, M. Lemyre, P. Laberge, J. Abbott and S. Maheux-Lacroix (2023). **Preoperative Mechanical Bowel Preparation for Gynecologic Surgeries: A Systematic Review with Meta-analysis.** Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology **30**(9): 695-704.

Ciccica, D., A. K. Doyle, C. H. M. Ng and M. Armour (2023). **Indigenous peoples' experience and understanding of menstrual and gynecological health in Australia, Canada and New Zealand: A scoping review.** International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health **20**(13): 6321.

Deans, R. (2023). **Ten years of uterine transplant and first procedure in Australia.** Inspire(29): 34-35.

Deans, R., J. Pittman, B. Gerstl, K. Haghghi, H. Pleass, P. D. Kähler, N. Kvarnström, W. Hseuh, K. Keung, G. Luxton, K. Yong, R. Caldas, L. Byun, C. Loo, J. Tippet, G. Caponas, D. Moses, K.-M. Wan, K. Arulpragasam, N. Kiely, M. Brännström and J. Abbott (2023). **The first Australian uterus transplantation procedure: A result of a long-term Australian-Swedish research collaboration.** Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology **63**(3): 418-424.

Gerstl, B., C. Signorelli, C. E. Wakefield, R. Deans, T. Vaishnav, K. Johnston, K. Neville, R. J. Cohn and A. Anazodo (2023). **Sexual and reproductive complications and concerns of survivors of childhood, adolescent and adult cancer.** Journal of Cancer Survivorship.

Kapurubandara, S. and J. Abbott (2023). **Is vNOTES the Michelangelo of Gynecologic Surgery?** Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology **30**(11): 855-856.

Knapman, B. L., M. A.-S. Forgues, J. A. Abbott and S. Maheux-Lacroix (2023). **Other treatments for CSP.** Best Practice & Research Clinical Obstetrics & Gynaecology **90**: 102367.

Knapman, B. L., F. G. Li, R. Deans, E. Nesbitt-Hawes, S. Maheux-Lacroix and J. Abbott (2023 – In press). **Botulinum Toxin for the Management of Pelvic Floor Tension Myalgia and Persistent Pelvic Pain: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.** Obstetrics & Gynecology **143**(1): e7-e17.

Li, F. G. and J. A. Abbott (2023). **Vaginal Laser Therapy for GSM/VVA: Where We Stand Now – A Review by the EUGA Working Group on Laser.** Climacteric **26**(6): 638-638.

Li, F. G., T. Fuchs, R. Deans, L. McCormack, E. Nesbitt-Hawes, J. Abbott and A. Farnsworth (2023). **Vaginal epithelial histology before and after fractional CO2 laser in postmenopausal women: a**

double-blind, sham-controlled randomized trial. *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology* **229**(3): 278.e271-278.e279.

McCormack, L., S. Song, A. Budden, C. Ma, K. Nguyen, F. G. Li, C. Y. Lim, S. Maheux-Lacroix, A. Arnold, R. Deans, H. R. Won, B. Knapman, E. Nesbitt-Hawes and J. A. Abbott (2023). **Immediate versus delayed urinary catheter removal following non-hysterectomy benign gynaecological laparoscopy: a randomised trial.** *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology* **130**(9): 1112-1119.

Ng, C. H. M. and J. Abbott (2023). **Measuring the impact of endometriosis on quality of life.** *Inspire*(29): 24-25.

Ng, C. H. M., A. G. Michelmore, G. D. Mishra, G. W. Montgomery, P. Rogers and J. Abbott (2023). **Establishing the Australian National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials (NECST) Registry: A protocol paper.** *Reproduction and Fertility* **4**(2): e230014.

Ng, C. H. M., G. D. Mishra, G. W. Montgomery and J. A. Abbott (August 2023). **Why Australia needs a second National Action Plan on Endometriosis.** *InSight+ MJA*.

Nguyen, K., L. McCormack, R. Deans, E. Nesbitt-Hawes, B. Knapman, F. Li, C. Lim and J. A. Abbott. **A Prospective Study of Bladder Function Following Endometriosis Surgery with up to 8 years Follow-up.** *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology* **0**(0).

Robertson, J., J. Abbott, S. Corbett-Burns, M. Bukhari, S. Perera, A. Kalantan, M. Sarofim, R. Chou, G. Cario, D. Rosen, S. Choi, M. Wynn-Williams, G. Condous and D. Chou (2023 – In press). **Treatment of rectosigmoid endometriosis by laparoscopic reverse submucosal dissection (LRSD): The Sydney partial thickness discoid excision technique.** *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* n/a(n/a).

Scheck, S. M., C. Henry, N. Bedford, J. Abbott, M. Wynn-Williams, A. Yazdani and S. McDowell (2023). **Non-invasive tests for endometriosis are here; how reliable are they, and what should we do with the results?** *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* n/a(n/a).

Schubert, R., S. Song, R. Everist, E. Nesbitt-Hawes and J. Abbott. **The impact of multimodal physiotherapy in an interdisciplinary setting for the management of women with persistent pelvic pain and pelvic floor tension myalgia.** *European Journal of Physiotherapy*: 1-6.

Sinclair, J., J. Abbott, A. Mikocka-Walus, C. H. M. Ng, J. Sarris, S. Evans and M. Armour (2023). **"A glimmer of hope" - Perceptions, barriers, and drivers for medicinal cannabis use amongst Australian and New Zealand people with endometriosis.** *Reproduction and Fertility*: RAF-23-0049.

Sinclair, J., J. Abbott, A. Proudfoot and M. Armour (2023). **The Place of Cannabinoids in the Treatment of Gynecological Pain.** *Drugs* **83**(17): 1571-1579.

Sirohi, D., C. H. M. Ng, N. Bidargaddi, H. Slater, M. A. Parker, M. L. Hull and R. O'Hara (2023 – In press). **High-Quality eHealth Websites for Information on Endometriosis: Systematic Search.** *Journal of Medical Internet Research* **26**: e48243.

GRACE in the news

Coffs Harbour mum Kirsty Bryant becomes first Australian to undergo uterus transplant. Abbott J https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-02-27/uterus-transplant-kirsty-bryant-sydney-coffs-harbour/102025196?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=link&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web

Fertility Podcasts. In this episode, Alice Almeida and guests including Professor Jason Abbott, an endometriosis expert, and Stefanie Valakas, an Accredited Practising Dietitian & Nutritionist who's the founder of The Dietologist delve into the realities of an endometriosis diagnosis.

<https://www.merckgroup.com/au-en/podcasts/talking-pineapples-podcasts/talking-pineapple-episode-2.html>



Mother donates her own womb to daughter in an act of unconditional love | 60 Minutes Australia
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tILzTKI3f0>

First Australian to undergo uterus transplant now pregnant
<https://www.ausdoc.com.au/news/first-australian-to-undergo-uterus-transplant-now-pregnant/>

Australia's first uterus transplant recipient Kirsty Bryant is pregnant
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-05-22/australian-first-uterus-transplant-patient-kirsty-bryan-pregnant/102376488>

Coffs Harbour's Kirsty Bryant shares the good news
<https://www.nbnnews.com.au/2023/05/22/coffs-harbours-kirsty-bryant-shares-the-good-news/>

Australia's first uterus transplant recipient pregnant months after procedure
<https://9now.nine.com.au/today/uterus-transplant-recipient-pregnant-months-after-australia-first-procedure/9d58806d-f946-425a-9459-a148aec7c2ef>

Australia's first uterus transplant recipient shares joyous pregnancy news
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Kirsty received a uterus transplant in January. Now, she's pregnant
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Australia's first birth via uterus transplantation

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Australia's first birth via uterus transplantation

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First baby born in Australian from 'groundbreaking' uterus transplant

<https://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/parenting/babies/first-baby-born-in-australian-from-groundbreaking-uterus-transplant/news-story/ea86c85153cf790632bc5d376f905824>

'Dream come true': First baby born from uterus transplant in Australia

<https://www.9news.com.au/national/australias-first-uterus-transplant-baby-arrives-safely/2b56fd3b-3bec-4c76-bfc5-f04ef7aede6c>

Australia's first uterus transplant recipient Kirsty Bryant gives birth to healthy baby boy

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ofm_xe4VKFg

GRACE Medicine Honours Students



Belinda Guo



**Madhulikaa (Madhu)
Sarjapuram Nirnanjan**



Caitlin Tjoa

"My project began the process of evaluating the relationship between hormonal expression and its clinical presentation in endometriosis and adenomyosis, with the aim to ultimately predict hormonal insensitivity and provide therapeutic alternatives for patients unresponsive to current therapeutics. Through the mentorship of the GRACE team, I was able to conduct research into this critical issue, but also gain a greater understanding of the intersection between molecular science and its clinical application."

– **Belinda Guo**

"Undertaking my research year at the Royal Hospital for Women was an invaluable learning experience which enhanced my capabilities as a future doctor. The medical team welcomed us, the students, with open arms and provided unwavering mentorship throughout our year. I was privileged to partake in specialist clinics, scrub into surgeries, and engage in numerous research projects.

Over the year, I completed my Honours research project focusing on 'Long-term follow-up of adolescents with PCOS-like symptoms.' Through the guidance and support of my supervisors and the exceptional clinical team, I will be sharing my work at the 2024 ASPIRE conference in Manila.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member of the GRACE team whose support was instrumental in realising my academic and professional aspirations."

– Madhulikaa (Madhu) Sarjapuram Niranjani

“My Honours research project focused on investigating the pain and quality of life outcomes for women following surgery for confirmed endometriosis using data from the NECST Registry. Engaging in this research has not only deepened my understanding of the intricacies of gynaecological care, but it has also allowed me to truly appreciate the critical role that research plays in advancing women’s health. While my Honours year was incredibly fulfilling and enjoyable, it was equally challenging, fostering substantial academic and personal growth. This year has provided me with many rich learning experiences thanks to the sincere mentorship and guidance of all members of the GRACE team.”

– Caitlin Tjoa

