

Centre for Big Data  
Research in Health

# Annual Report 2020

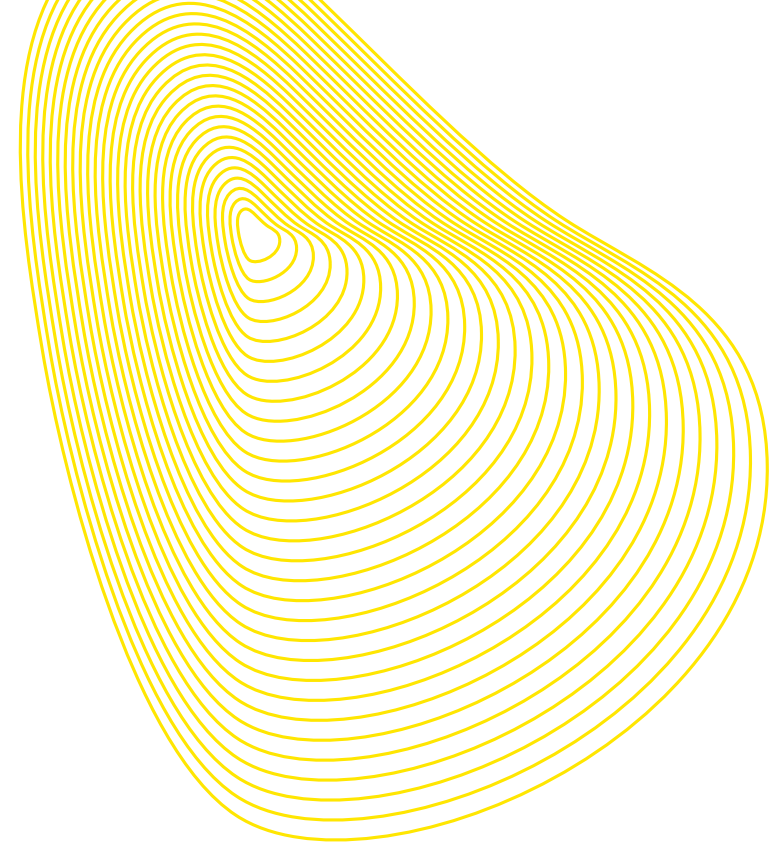


**UNSW**  
SYDNEY



CENTRE FOR  
BIG DATA RESEARCH  
IN HEALTH





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# Director's message



I am very pleased to share with you the achievements and successes of the Centre for Big Data Research Health in 2020, our 6th full year of operation.

The Centre started the year in our new location on Level 2 of the AGSM building, a fantastic space with facilities that will support our Centre's work and foster collaboration and teamwork. However, before we were able to settle in and fully unpack COVID-19 arrived.

COVID-19 had significant impacts on the work of the Centre, necessitating a rapid shift to fully online teaching and remote working. I would like to thank the staff of the Centre for how they rose to the challenges and produced stellar outcomes, while enduring lockdowns, uncertainty, home schooling, separations from family, and endless Teams and Zooms calls. Our team also made some important, rapid, contributions to COVID-19 modelling methodology and research.

In 2020 our students no longer had opportunities to enhance their learning through face-to-face interactions with teachers and peers. However, they displayed great adaptability and achieved strong results, as demonstrated by outstanding final presentations of the Master of Science in Health Data Science dissertation students. I would like to congratulate our 2020 graduates from the Master of Science in Health Data Science program (Samira Afrazi, Pei-Chen Hsu and Yalin Zhao) and wish them every success in their new careers as Health Data Scientists.

Finally, I warmly congratulate are our two 2020 PhD graduates, **Dr Stella Settumba Nalukwago and Dr Mei Lin Lee**, and wish them all the best as they forge their post-doctoral pathways.

Louisa Jorm

Professor, Faculty of Medicine

Director, Centre for Big Data Research in Health





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# Research highlights

## 2020



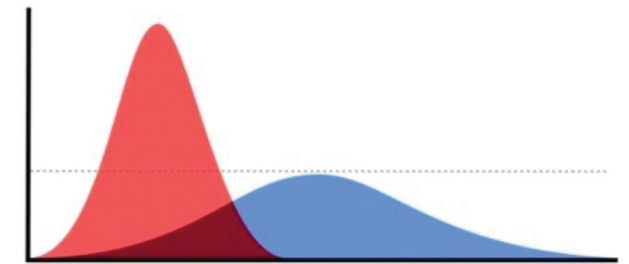
### We can “shrink” the COVID-19 curve, rather than just flatten it

In March 2020, medically-trained epidemiologist Dr Tim Churches and Professor Louisa Jorm, Foundation Director of the Centre for Big Data Research in Health, explained how their epidemiological modelling showed public health interventions could do more than just “flatten” the COVID-19 epidemic curve.

Dr Churches and Professor Jorm said: “Leaders and officials who are currently making crucial decisions about responses to COVID-19 can take heart that ‘flattening’ the epidemic curve will not inevitably result in a need to apply drastic social distancing measures over a much longer period of time.

“These public health measures, in particular, intensive case-finding and strict enforcement of isolation and quarantine, can potentially ‘shrink’ the curve, resulting in many fewer cases and deaths overall, with minimal or no extension to the duration of the epidemic.

“Our work illustrates the complexity of predicting the potential impact of public health interventions on the



course of the COVID-19 epidemic and it is important to note that our model has been developed very rapidly at a time when we don’t have good data to inform many of our assumptions.

“We shall continue to refine our model and it is freely available for others to use, test and further develop to ensure that policy actions are informed by the best possible evidence (we have described the model in detail on Tim Churches’ website and have made the code available on Github).” For the full story.

### Chances of having a second IVF baby after fertility treatment for the first child ‘favourable’: new report

For the first time, a study – led by the Centre for Big Data Research in Health – estimated a woman’s chances of having a second IVF baby. The research showed women had a good chance of having a second child with the help of fertility treatment after their first child was born this way.

Researchers analysed data from more than 35,000 women and found that after a live birth using IVF, also known as assisted reproductive technology (ART), a woman’s chances of a second ART baby were between 51 per cent and 88 per cent after six cycles of treatment.

While the study presented population estimates and researchers noted every couple is different, they hoped their findings could be used to counsel patients.

Senior author Professor Georgina Chambers, Director of the National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit in the Centre for Big Data Research in Health, said: “We also found that the chances of a second ART baby decreased with increased maternal age.” For the full story.





## Popular high blood pressure drug linked to increased skin cancer risk in older Australians

Hydrochlorothiazide use increases older people's risk of developing skin cancer, a study by Centre for Big Data Research in Health scientists showed – but the researchers warned against suddenly stopping the medicine.

The drug, one of the most prescribed high blood pressure drugs in Australia, contains photosensitising properties, which can make skin more sensitive to the sun.

The findings were based on a big data analysis of skin cancer rates in a case-control study among older Australians and supported similar findings from previous international studies.

Dr Benjamin Daniels, lead author of the study and Research Fellow at the Centre for Big Data Research in Health, said: "We found increased risk for developing malignant melanoma and squamous cell cancer of the lip (lip cancer) with hydrochlorothiazide use. For the full story.



## Dr Mark Hanly talks COVID R package (eRUM 2020)



Dr Mark Hanly from the Centre for Big Data Research in Health, presented an invited talk on the COVID R package at the European R Users Meeting (eRUM) 2020. COVID stands for Covid-19 Opensource Infection Dynamics, and the COVID package provides users with a set of opensource tools for modelling Covid-19 and other infectious diseases while incorporating time-varying interventions.

The COVID package was developed by Oisin Fitzgerald, Mark Hanly and Tim Churches, and was joint winner of the eRUM CovidR competition, a contest of R contributions around the topic of the Covid-19 pandemic. R users can download the package.

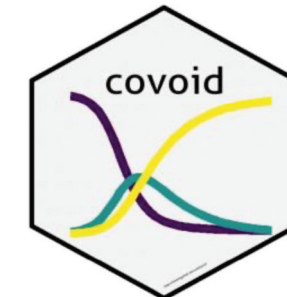
COVID also includes an interactive dashboard that can be accessed online.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHJ7RSv6nio&feature=youtu.be&t=5757>

## CBDRH wins international COVID-19 data science competition

UNSW Sydney academics have been recognised for their open-source COVID software built to model COVID-19 transmission and intervention strategies. A team of UNSW academics from UNSW's Centre for Big Data Research in Health (CBDRH) in collaboration with the South Western Sydney Clinic School (SWSCS) have won CovidR, a global competition assessing the contributions of the R software platform to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CBDRH industry PhD Scholar Oisin Fitzgerald and Lecturer Dr Mark Hanly, joined by Senior Research Fellow at SWSCS Dr Tim Churches were awarded for their open-source COVID software built to model COVID-19 transmission and intervention strategies.



"Widespread social distancing and lock-downs have been remarkably effective in containing the spread of COVID-19, but they are blunt tools that come with enormous social and economic costs," Dr Tim Churches said.

## Cardiovascular toxicity of targeted therapies for cancer: an overview of systematic reviews



Dr Marina van Leeuwen, a cancer epidemiologist in the Centre for Big Data Research in Health, has led new research that synthesises the evidence of cardiovascular toxicity of targeted therapies for cancer.

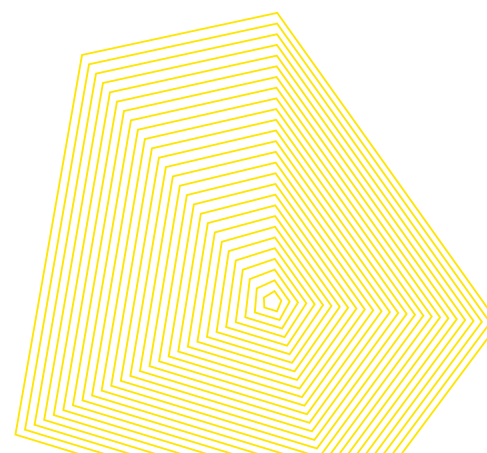
The findings will assist clinicians and patients when managing cardiovascular health. The research was performed in collaboration with experts in oncology, cardiovascular disease and people affected by cancer. This research has been published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute Cancer Spectrum.

## 'Quite amazing': One in 10 babies born to women over 35 now conceived via IVF



The 2020 report of the Australia and New Zealand Assisted Reproductive Technology Database (ANZARD), produced by the National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit in the Centre for Big Data Research in Health, was featured as a front page article in the Sydney Morning Herald and The Age on Sunday newspapers.

For the complete ANZARD report.





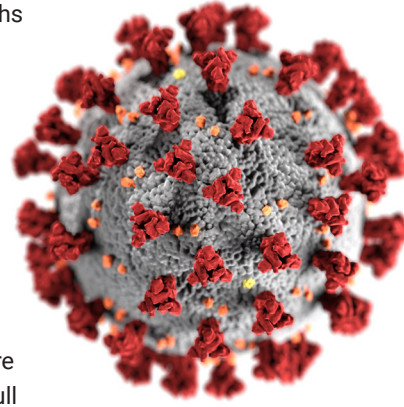
## 'We need to be seen' – why data is vital in the fight against COVID-19

Epidemiologist and data scientist Dr Kalinda Griffiths says "data is power" for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities facing the threat of coronavirus.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has propelled 'Big Data' into the national spotlight. In real-time, the public is being exposed to population-level data at an unprecedented rate and detail.

For UNSW Scientia Fellow Dr Kalinda Griffiths – a Yawuru woman and epidemiologist at the UNSW Centre for Big Data Research – this has brought into focus the critical role data plays in health, not just with the COVID-19 pandemic, "but also for other health issues, and particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities".

"Data is critical to understand how this disease is impacting communities," Dr Griffiths says. "We know that data is the central source of information around any sort of epidemic or pandemic. But when we start to break it down by different population groups, that's where it gets more complicated." For the full story.



## Over-the-counter painkiller sales up after codeine rescheduling

Medical researchers at UNSW have revealed how painkiller sales have developed since codeine was rescheduled in 2018.

Sales of painkillers like paracetamol and ibuprofen have soared after the Australian government made codeine products prescription-only just over two years ago – but in what medical researchers consider good news, consumers don't seem to have 'switched' to potentially harmful opioid derivatives instead.

The study – led by Dr Andrea Schaffer from the Centre for Big Data Research in Health and published in March 2020 in the Medical Journal of Australia – analysed sales to pharmacies of a range of products, both codeine-containing and codeine-free, across four years, including in the year before and after the rescheduling. The data represent about 96 per cent of pharmaceutical sales in Australia.



## Using quit smoking medication during pregnancy not linked to higher risk of complications

Studies analysing the safety of using quit smoking medication during pregnancy have been few and far between – now, new research from the Centre for Big Data Research in Health sheds light on the matter.

The study led by Dr Alys Havard from UNSW Medicine's Centre for Big Data Research in Health was published in February 2020 in BMC Medicine. It analysed data from nearly 100,000 women who smoked during pregnancy, comparing birth outcomes of women who used smoking cessation medication – specifically varenicline, bupropion or nicotine replacement therapies (NRT) – to those who didn't.



It found that women who use smoking cessation aids during pregnancy don't put their babies at a higher risk of adverse outcomes such as pre-term births. One medication in particular was even shown to reduce the risk of these adverse outcomes. For the full story.





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# Centre overview



# BIG DATA

"Big data" refers to datasets whose size or complexity is beyond the ability of traditional methods and tools to capture, store, manage, and analyse. Big data in health and medicine are generated through operating the health system (e.g. medical service claims), clinical care (e.g. hospital records, primary care records), laboratories (e.g. imaging data, pathology records, genetic testing) and research studies (e.g. clinical trials, observational studies), to support disease prevention, control (e.g. disease notifications) and survivorship, and by individuals themselves (e.g. "life logging"). This type of 'real-world' data is growing rapidly and will continue to expand exponentially for the foreseeable future.

There is enormous potential to inform improvements in the effectiveness, safety and efficiency of health care by bringing these data together and using them for research to understand the determinants of disease risk, target therapies to those who will benefit most, compare the effectiveness of alternative preventative and therapeutic interventions, and model the health and economic impacts of interventions and policies. Recognising this potential, research that will lead to "better models of care and services that improve outcomes, reduce disparities, increase efficiency and provide greater value" is listed first among the new national research priorities for health. Moreover, it is estimated that effective use of big data could also deliver reductions to national health care expenditure of around 8 percent which would translate to more than \$11 billion annually in Australia.

The Centre for Big Data Research in Health (CBDRH) is a world-first research centre that is focused on delivering this value. The Centre supports UNSW Medicine's Thematic Research model in which key research themes (Neuroscience, mental health and addiction; Infectious disease, immunity and inflammation; Cancer; Non-communicable diseases) are supported by cross-cutting enabling capabilities including 'Big data in health'.

### Vision

The power of "big data" is harnessed to transform the prevention and management of disease, and the delivery of health services.

### Mission

To maximise the productive use of all possible sources of health big data in order to enhance the health and well being of Australians and the global community.

### Values

- **Excellence:** Our research is scientifically rigorous and of high quality
- **Innovation:** We use creative and novel approaches in study design, analysis techniques and reporting
- **Impact:** Our high impact research benefits population health and the health care system
- **Leadership:** We are influential in the health data science field and aim to be regarded as a world leader
- **Collaboration:** We develop and maintain open and respectful relationships with research partners, the community, and each other

### Functions

- Foster and develop innovation in health data science
- Undertake high impact, high-quality and multi-disciplinary health and medical research using big data
- Facilitate the rapid translation of research findings into health improvements and better value in health care
- Build multi-disciplinary capacity in health research using big data
- Promote public, clinical and policy awareness of the health and societal benefits of research using big data



### Research Units

While the Centre has broad expertise that spans multiple health domains and the capability to address any health issue that can be informed through research using large-scale electronic data, it has a longstanding reputation as world leaders in thematic areas that correspond to its four internal research units:

- Health Services and Outcomes Unit: undertakes research to identify variations and disparities in the use, outcomes and costs of health services, investigates the factors that drive these, and evaluates the outcomes of health policies and programs.
- National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit: conducts national epidemiological, health services, policy and health economic research in reproductive, perinatal and maternal health.

- Cancer Epidemiology Research Unit: performs genetic epidemiology and population-based health record linkage studies aimed at understanding the causes and consequences of cancer.

- Medicines Policy Research Unit: conducts research regarding the judicious use, safety, costs and cost-effectiveness of prescribed medicines.

Clinical Analytics and Machine Learning Research Unit: design, develop and evaluate technology that supports evidence-based decision making by patients and clinicians





# Staff list 2020

**Dr Alys Havard**  
Senior Research Fellow

**Dr Amy Gibson**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Andrea Schaffer**  
Research Fellow

**Mr Andrew Blance**  
Senior Lecturer

**Dr Benjamin Daniels**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Benjamin Hsu**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Bich Tran**  
Research Fellow (until June)

**A/Prof Blanca Gallego Luxan**  
Unit Head

**Dr Bronwyn Brew Haasdyk**  
Senior Research Fellow

**Dr Christos Venetis**  
Senior Lecturer

**A/Prof Claire Vajdic**  
Scientia Fellow & Unit Head

**Ms Claudia Bruno**  
Research Assistant

**Dr Danielle Tran**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Danni Han**  
Research Associate (until July)

**Ms Elena Keller**  
Research Associate

**Ms Evelyn Karantonis**  
Data Management Officer

**A/Prof Georgina Chambers**  
Scientia Fellow & Unit Director

**Dr Hanna Tervonen**  
Research Fellow

**Ms Hina Salimuddin**  
Data Management Officer

**Dr Hon Hwang**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Helga Zoega**  
Scientia Fellow

**Ms Jade Newman**  
ANZARD Data Manager

**Dr Jon Brett**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Juliana de Oliveira Costa**  
Research Associate

**Dr Kalinda Griffiths**  
Scientia Fellow

**Dr Kathleen Falster**  
Snr Research Fellow (until May)

**Dr Kylie-ann Mallitt**  
Research Fellow

**Professor Louisa Jorm**  
Director

**Ms Louise Francis**  
Centre Manager

**Dr Maarit Laaksonen**  
Senior Research Fellow

**Dr Marina van Leeuwen**  
Research Fellow

**Ms Margot Murphy**  
Project Officer

**Dr Mark Hanly**  
Lecturer

**Ms Melisa Litchfield**  
Data Manager

**Dr Michael Falster**  
Research Fellow

**Ms Michele Partridge**  
Administrative Officer

**Ms Natasha Donnoley**  
Project Manager

**Mr Oisín Fitzgerald**  
Research Officer

**Dr Oscar Perez Concha**  
Lecturer

**Ms Prudence Creighton**  
Statistician

**Dr Repon Pau**  
Research Officer

**Dr Sabita Rana**  
Project Coordinator

**Dr Stephanie Choi**  
Research Fellow

**Professor Sallie Pearson**  
Unit Head

**Ms Sanja Lujic**  
Lecturer

**Dr Sebastiano Barbieri**  
Research Fellow

**Dr Sharon Chow**  
Coordinator (ANZNN)

**Dr Stephanie Choi**  
Research Fellow



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# Research Students 2020



**Jared Brown**

Topic: Using big data to evaluate pharmaceutical policy interventions

Primary Supervisor: Professor Sallie Pearson  
Co-Supervisor(s): Dr Helga Zoega, Dr Andrea Schaffer, Professor Nicholas Buckley

Funding source: Scientia Scholarship

**Claudia Bruno**

Topic: Evaluating the safety of medicines during pregnancy using big data

Joint Supervisors: Dr Helga Zoega, Dr Alys Havard  
Co-Supervisor(s): Prof Sallie Pearson

**Michael Hennessy**

Topic: Cataract Surgery in NSW and relationship to health status

Primary Supervisor: Professor Minas Coroneo  
Secondary Supervisor(s): Dr Ian Harris, Professor Louisa Jorm

**Dominique Favell (Masters by Research)**

Topic: The application of real-world evidence to support regulatory and reimbursement decisions

Primary Supervisors: Professor Sallie Pearson  
Co-Supervisor: Dr Helga Zoega

**Oisin Fitzgerald**

Topic: Patient phenotyping to support new care pathways

Joint Supervisors: Professor Louisa Jorm, Dr Oscar Perez Concha

Co-Supervisor(s): Lachlan Rudd (eHealth NSW), Dr Alejandro Metke Jimenez (CSIRO)

Funding source: iPhD Industry Scholarship

**Elena Keller**

Topic: Using behavioural economics to inform decision making in fertility treatment

Joint Supervisor(s): Professor Georgina Chambers, Professor Andreas Ortmann  
Secondary Supervisor: Professor Louisa Jorm

**James Kemp**

Topic: Deep learning to detect anomalies in big datasets  
Joint Supervisors: Professor Louisa Jorm, Dr Sebastiano Barbieri

Co-Supervisor(s): Laura Sham (DoH), Norm Good (CSIRO)

Funding source: iPhD Scholarship

**Georgina Kennedy**

Topic: Automation of patient trajectory management at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Primary Supervisor: A/Professor Blanca Gallego Luxan  
Co-Supervisor: Mark Dras

**Damian Kotevski**

Topic: Using machine learning to understand and improve care and outcomes for head and neck cancer patients

Joint Supervisors: A/Professor Robert Smee, A/Professor Claire Vajdic

Co-Supervisor: Dr Matthew Field

Funding source: Prince of Wales Hospital

**Mei Lin Lee (PhD Awarded)**

Topic: The utilisation of Smoking Cessation Pharmacotherapies in pregnant smokers

Primary Supervisor: Dr Alys Havard

Secondary Supervisor(s): Dr Duong Tran, Professor Alec Welsh

Funding source(s): University International Postgraduate Award (UIPA)



**Peiwen Liao**

Topic: Health service utilization by people with an intellectual disability  
 Joint Supervisor(s): A/Professor Claire Vajdic and Professor Julian Trollor  
 Secondary Supervisor: Dr Simone Reppermund  
 Funding source: Scientia Scholarship

**Leibo Liu**

Topic: Extracting value from unstructured health data  
 Joint Supervisors: Professor Louisa Jorm, Dr Oscar Perez Concha  
 Co-Supervisor(s): Dr Anthony Nguyen, Vicki Bennett  
 Funding source: iPhD Scholarship

**Sanja Lujic**

Topic: Comorbidity and Multiborbidity in New South Wales: Prevalence, Trajectories and Implications for Healthcare Utilization and Costs  
 Primary Supervisor: Professor Louisa Jorm  
 Secondary Supervisor(s): Professor Judy Simpson

**Matthew Miller**

Topic: The application of machine learning with spatial statistics to a prehospital critical care environment  
 Primary Supervisor: A/Professor Blanca Gallego Luxan  
 Secondary Supervisor: Professor Louisa Jorm

**Tarun Malviya**

Topic: Using interpretable machine learning to increase prediction accuracy in cancer  
 Primary supervisor: Professor Salil Kanhere  
 Secondary Supervisor(s): Professor Claire Vajdic, Professor Michael Barton, Dr Helen Paik

**Elizabeth Nguyen**

Topic: Cancer health service utilization by people with an intellectual disability".  
 Joint Supervisor(s): A/Professor Claire Vajdic and Professor Julian Trollor  
 Secondary Supervisor: Dr Simone Reppermund  
 Funding source: Translational Cancer Research Network Scholar

**Michael Odutola**

Topic: Lifestyle, occupational and genetic risk factors for follicular lymphoma in Australia  
 Primary Supervisor: A/Professor Claire Vajdic  
 Co-Supervisor: Dr Marina van Leeuwen  
 Funding source: University International Postgraduate Award (UIPA)

**Smriti Raichand**

Topic: Antidepressants use during pregnancy and their effects on mother and child  
 Primary Supervisor: Dr Alys Havard  
 Secondary Supervisor(s): Professor Sallie Pearson, Professor Nick Buckley  
 Funding source(s): Australian Postgraduate Award (APA), NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence Medicines and Ageing Top-up Scholarship

**Oluwadamisola Sotade**

Topic: Using machine learning algorithms to predict the surgical outcomes of Australians with multimorbidity  
 Joint Supervisors: Professor Louisa Jorm, Dr Michael Falster  
 Co-Supervisor: Professor Sallie Pearson  
 Funding source: Scientia Scholarship

**Monica Tang**

Topic: Assessing and Optimising Anti-Cancer Drug Utilisation  
 Primary Supervisor: Professor Sallie-Anne Pearson  
 Co-Supervisor(s): Dr Andrea Schaffer, Professor John Simes, Chee Lee  
 Funding source(s): NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship, NBCF Scholarship

**Skye Trudgett**

Topic: Evaluation of national-wide programs for high-risk young people, including a focus on Indigenous data sovereignty  
 Joint Supervisors: Professor A Shakeshaft and Dr Kalinda Griffiths  
 Co-Supervisor(s): Dr Timothy Dobbins and Professor Robert Sanson-Fisher

**Heidi Welberry**

Topic: Using big data to understand health care trajectories for older Australians at risk of dementia  
 Primary Supervisor: Professor Louisa Jorm  
 Co-Supervisor(s): Scientia Professor Henry Brodaty, Dr Benjamin Hsu, Dr Sebastiano Barbieri  
 Funding source: NHMRC Dementia Team Grant

**Brooke Wilson**

Topic: Understanding the utility of chemotherapy and targeted treatments for cancer in high as well as low and middle-income countries  
 Joint Supervisors: Professor M Barton, Professor S Pearson  
 Co-Supervisor(s): Eitan Emir

**Jie (Elliot) Zhu**

Topic: Enabling Personalised Cohort Studies from Large Repositories of Clinical Practice Data  
 Primary Supervisor(s): A/Professor Blanca Gallego Luxan  
 Co-Supervisor: Ian Marschner





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# Research Funding 2020

## New Grants awarded – 2020



22

1. **Pearson S**, Pratt N, Preen D, Buckley N, Degenhardt L, van Gool K, Vajdic C, **Jorm L**, Wilson A, Henry D. Centre for Research Excellence in Medicines Intelligence. *NHMRC Centres for Research Excellence 2020-2025* (\$2,500,000).
2. **Jorm L**, Arnott C, Barbieri S, Brennan P, Rodgers A, Woodward M, Poppe K, Gandomkar Z, Gallego Luxan B, Douglas K. Novel deep learning methods for large-scale cardiovascular risk screening using Australian digital health data. *MRFF Cardiovascular Mission 2020-2022* (\$1,467,000)
3. **Vajdic C**, Neideck G, von Sanden N, Betbeder-Matibet L, Hurley R, Green D, McNeil K, Penna T, Smith M, **Jorm L**. The LINKed Data Asset for Australian Health Research (LINDAHR). Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC) National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy 2021-2023 (\$522,726).
4. **Chambers GM**, Halliday J, McLachlan R, O'Bryan MK. Men and infertility over the lifecourse (MAIL). *Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) 2020-2024* (\$4,600,000).
5. Peiris D, Elshaug A, **Jorm LR**, Jan S, Billot L, **Pearson S**, Schierhout G, Huckel-Schneider C, Landon BE. Development and evaluation of regional health care alliances to improve health system performance in New South Wales - Patient Centred Co-commissioning Groups. *NHMRC Partnership Project 2020-2025* (\$956,151).
6. **Pearson S**, Solomon B, McArthur G, Fox S, Desai J, IJzerman M, Zhang Y, Gibbs P, Degeling K, Franchini F. Predicting the population health economic impact of current and new Cancer Treatments (PRIMCAT). *MRFF Targeted Health Sydney and Community Organisation Research Grant 2020-2023* (\$335,688).
7. **Barbieri S**. The Health Gym: An Open Platform with Health-Related Benchmark Problems for the Development of Reinforcement Learning Algorithms. *Wellcome Trust 2020-2021* (\$98,386).
8. **Schaffer A**. Disentangling the interrelationship between multimorbidity, multimedicine use, and cardiovascular *NHMRC Ideas Grant 2021-2023* (\$480,979)
9. Trollor J, Agar, Cvejic, Currow, Strutt, **Vajdic C**, Chye, Srasuebkul, Weise, Reppermund S, Szanto, Harlum, Tuffrey-Wijne. 2020-22. Improving palliative care services for people with an intellectual disability. *NHMRC Public Health and Chronic Disease Grant Program 2020-2022* (\$1,140,915)
10. Stephenson, Ritter, **Vajdic C**, Engelmann. Realising big data's potential to address social and health inequalities. *Australian Research Council Discovery Project Grant (DP200100062) 2020-22* (\$300,515).
11. Trollor J, Reppermund S, Sachdev P, Brodaty H, Christensen H, Vajdic C, Srasuebkul, Watkins, Dowse, Fisher, Katz, Baldry, Dean K, Dobbins T, Butler, Harris, Sowmya, Mohammadi. An interdisciplinary data platform to make neuropsychiatric and disability population-based research accessible and efficient. *UNSW Sydney Research Infrastructure Scheme 2020-2022* (\$150,763).
12. **Camacho X**. Leveraging big data to assess medicines safety in Australia. *NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship 2021-2023* (\$91,538).
13. **Teede H, Chambers GM**. Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA) National Women's Health Research, Translation and Impact Network (WHRTN). *MRFF Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research initiative. 2020-2025* (\$5,000,000).

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## ONGOING GRANTS

1. **Jorm L**, Baily M, Boyle D, Churches T, Herbert S, Neal B, Neideck G, Palmer L, Preen D, Smith M. E-Research Institutional Cloud Architecture (ERICA): secure cloud computing for sensitive microdata. *ARDC Platforms Projects 2020-2022* (\$2,015,000).
2. **Gallego Luxan B**. Learning what works and for which patients: efficient framework and novel technologies for precision comparative effectiveness research. *NHMRC Ideas Grant 2020-2023* (\$587,183).
3. **Falster M0**. Same patient, same care: is out funding of hospitals promoting inequities in care and outcomes? *NHMRC Ideas Grant 2020-2022* (\$566,781)
4. Falster K, Pilkington R, Lynch J, **Hanly M**, Shakeshaft A, Edwards B, Lingam R, Brownell M, Transforming the health system response to child maltreatment: the need for cross-jurisdictional e-cohorts. *NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohort Studies Grant 2020-2023* (\$1,248,388)
5. **Griffiths K**. Data sovereignty tools, services and/or resources: Phase 1 – identification of potential and viable tools, services and/or resources. CRC for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health - Lowitja Institute 2020-2021 (\$108,824).
6. **Gallego Luxan B, Jorm LR, Perez Concha O, Quiroz Aguilera JC**. Software tools for the provision of EMR data for research. South Eastern Sydney Local Health District 2020-2022 (\$498,96).
7. Maher C, Buchbinder R, Hancock M, O'Sullivan P, McAulay J, Blyth F, **Jorm L**, Collie A, McCaffrey K, Hayes A. Low Back Pain Centre for Research Excellence. *NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Clinical Research 2020-2024* (\$2,499,199).
8. Anstey K, Peters R, Lautenschlager N, Shaw J, Anderson C, **Jorm L**, Kiely K, Whitmer R, Matthews F, Kivipelto M. Translating the evidence on dementia risk reduction to generate assessments, advice and training for health professionals, policy makers, patients and public. *NHMRC Boosting Dementia Research 2020-2023* (\$1,995,480.60).
9. Rhee J, **Vajdic C**, Carey M, Sitas F, Goldstein D, Bonney A, Ferreira I, Mullan J, Emery J, Bergin R, Garne D, Smith M, Harland D, Prioretto A, Chantrill L. Not getting a fair go: why do people in rural areas with cancer have worse outcomes? *NUW Alliance Project Grant 2019-2020* (\$225,000).
10. **Pearson A, Jorm L, Chambers GM**, Degenhardt L, Dobbins T, Falster K, Harris I, Guy R, **Havard A**, Ivers R, Jaffe A, Levi C, Lingam R, Liu B, Sedrakyan A, Woodward M, **Vajdic CM, Zoega H**. A "Big Data" Platform for Real World Evidence in Health. *UNSW Sydney Research Infrastructure Scheme 2020* (\$217,443).
11. Lui, K; Gale, C; Tarnow-Mordi, WO; Schindler, T; **Chambers, GM**; Martin, A; Battin, M; Harris, D; Cruz, M. Does Withholding Enteral feeds Around blood Transfusion reduce the incidence of necrotising enterocolitis (NEC) in very preterm infants? The international WHEAT Study. National Health & Medical Research Council / Rare Cancers, Rare Diseases and Unmet Need (MRFF) 2019-2024 \$1606825.
12. **van Leeuwen M**, Anazodo A, Vajdic C, Chambers G, Boydell K, Cohn R. Linked data platform for adolescents and young adults diagnosed with cancer: improving survivorship care through population data analytics. *UNSW Medicine and SPHERE Cancer Clinical Academic Group (Cancer CAG) seed grant 2019-2020* (\$200,000).
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## LETTER TO EDITORS

1. Favell DL, Monica T, Daniels B, Vajdic CM, Zoega H, Pearson SA. Capture of systemic anticancer medicines with Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme data likely higher than previously reported. *Public Health Res Pract*. 2020;30(2):3022013.
2. Stock SJ, Brockway M, Zoega H, Been JV, Sheikh A, ... et al. Enabling a healthy start for vulnerable newborns. *Lancet*. 2020.

## REPORTS

1. Department of Health and Human Services (Victoria) and Expert Working Group (including Vajdic CM). Optimal care pathway for people with cancer of unknown primary (CUP) 2020.
2. Pearse J, Mazevska D, McElduff P, Tuccia J, Stone C, Cho O, Robertson E, Taylor P, Jorm L, Pearson S, Falster M, Tran D, ... et al. Evaluation of the Health Care Homes Program - Interim Evaluation Report 2020.
3. Newman JE, Paul RC, Chambers GM. Assisted reproductive technology in Australia and New Zealand 2018. Sydney: National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit, the University of New South Wales, Sydney. 2020.





## 7

# Invited conference presentations 2020



1. **Chambers GM.** Fertility & Sterility Journal Club Global - LIVE at ASRM 2020: High multiple pregnancy rates in IVF are not a thing of the past! Could we do better? *Virtual American Society of Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) October 2020* [Invited speaker].
2. **Falster M.** Evidence-practice gaps in post-discharge cardiovascular care: findings from a novel population-level data linkage. *SAHMRI Registry Centre Data Linkage Workshop, 12 October 2020* [Invited speaker].
3. **Gallego Luxan B.** *Austin Health Informatics and Analytics Grand Round, 2020* [Invited speaker].
4. **Gallego Luxan B.** COVID19 in Latin America. *ANU Webinar Series, 2020* [Invited speaker].
5. **Jorm LR.** Australian 'big data' approaches to real-world evidence. *Federal Drug Administration, USA, virtual seminar, 2020* [Invited speaker].
6. **Jorm LR.** Privacy and open access to health data. *Australian Clinical Trials Alliance Summit, held virtually, 2020* [Invited keynote speaker].
7. **Jorm LR.** Towards machine learning-enabled epidemiology. *International Population Data Linkage Network Conference, held virtually, 2020* [Invited keynote speaker].
8. **Jorm LR.** **Realising the potential of government data.** Network of Research and Data Specialists, (NeRDS) *NSW Department of Customer Service data day, Sydney, 2020* [Invited keynote speaker].
9. **Venetis CA.** Is more eggs better? *Scientific Meeting of SIRT (Scientists in Reproductive Technology), Sydney, 2020* [Invited speaker].
10. **Venetis CA.** Interpreting progesterone to guide treatment. *Updates in Infertility Treatment 2020-UIT 2020, Seville, Spain, 2020* [Invited speaker].
11. **Venetis CA.** The evidence for the use of FSH in IVF: a comprehensive review. *8th Masterclass of ASPIRE, Tokyo, Japan, 2020* [Invited speaker].
12. **Venetis CA.** Evidence for the use of Melatonin, CoQ10 and other agents in poor ovarian response. *8th Masterclass of ASPIRE, Tokyo, Japan, 2020* [Invited speaker].
13. **Venetis CA.** Progesterone monitoring: when to test and how to use it in ART. *Annual Conference Fertility Innovation in Reproductive Endocrinology - FIRE, Sydney, 2020* [Invited speaker].
14. **Venetis CA.** Optimizing ovarian stimulation to improve live birth rates. *Genesis Conference, Intas Pharmaceuticals, India, 2020* [Invited speaker].
15. **Venetis CA.** COVID-19, Fertility and Pregnancy. *Meet the Experts Seminar organised by Merck, 2020* [Invited speaker].
16. **Venetis CA.** What is the optimal GnRH antagonist protocol? *Webinar for Chinese Healthcare Professionals, InMed Medical Communication, Αύγουστος 2020* [Invited speaker].
17. **Venetis CA.** The future of Clinical Research in IVF. *Virtus Health Clinical Meeting, 2020* [Invited speaker].
18. **Venetis CA.** Critical appraisal of the literature: Prognosis. *Critical Appraisal of the literature for RANZCOG trainees in CREI, Merck Australia, 2020* [Invited speaker].
19. **Venetis CA.** What is the role of endometrium in recurrent implantation failure? The Endometrium in ART: Truths and Fallacies of the black box of embryo implantation. *European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology, ESHRE, 2020* [Invited speaker].
20. **Venetis CA.** What is the optimal GnRH antagonist protocol? *FertiVision 2020 Indian Fertility Society, 2020* [Invited speaker].
21. **Venetis CA.** Thin Endometrium - Hormones. *Webinar "Thin Endometrium" ASPIRE, 2020* [Invited speaker].





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