DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

(Incorporating the UCT Bioethics Centre, MRC/UCT Ischaemic Heart Research Unit, MRC/UCT Liver Research Centre, MRC/UCT/UWC Research Unit for Traditional Medicines and the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Drug Policy)

CONTENTS

UCT Bioethics Centre
Division of Cardiology
Division of Clinical Immunology
Division of Dermatology
Division of Endocrinology & Diabetes
Division of Gastroenterology
Hatter Institute For Cardiology Research
Division of Hepatology / MRC/UCT Liver Research Centre
Hypertension Clinic
Division of Infectious Diseases
Division of Lipidology
Division of Nephrology
Division of Neurology
Division of Nutrition & Dietetics
Division of Pharmacology
Division of Respiratory Medicine
Division of Rheumatology

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT - Professor RE Kirsch

DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT DETAILS

Postal Address: Department of Medicine
University of Cape Town Medical School
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (021) 406-6200
Fax: (021) 447-9670
E-mail: Ralph@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The Department incorporates 4 research Units: the UCT Bioethics Centre, the MRC/UCT Liver Research Centre, MRC/UCT/UWC Research Unit for Traditional Medicines and the MRC/UCT Ischaemic Heart Disease Research Unit; 17 divisions or clinics: Cardiology, Immunology, Endocrinology and Diabetology, Infectious Diseases, Dermatology,
Pharmacology, Emergency Medicine, Gastroenterology, Geriatrics, the Hypertension Clinic, Lipidology, Clinical Haematology, Neurology, Nephrology, Nutrition and Dietetics, Pulmonology, and Rheumatology; and Departments of Internal Medicine – at Groote Schuur, Conradie, Jooste, Somerset, and Victoria Hospitals.

PERMANENT & LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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HONORARY STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

See Units and Divisions within the Department

**Professor R E Kirsch:** Medical education, health services, porphyria, hepatitis, infection and liver disease, cardiovascular manifestations of portal hypertension
DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The year 2001 was a busy and productive year for members of the Centre. A two-day course organised by the Centre for members of Research Ethics Committees (in collaboration with colleagues from US, U Wits & U Pretoria) and was enthusiastically attended by 44 colleagues from UCT, US, UWC, Medunsa and Pretoria. The course was repeated in Gauteng in August 2001 for over 70 participants. Prof Solly Benatar and Dr David Benatar delivered a series of five lectures on Bioethics for Medical Practitioners in Cape Town. This was attended by over 86 local medical practitioners. David Benatar was invited to speak at a wide range of medical functions throughout the country. Mr Terry Fleischer made a major contribution to developing our application to the Fogarty International Center for an Educational Grant. He also developed and co-taught with Ms Anne Pope the first Law and Medicine Course at the UCT Faculty of Law in the winter semester, 2001. Godfrey Tangwa (Associate Professor in Philosophy University of Yaounde, Cameroon) visited us for 6 weeks. He gave several lectures and assisted with the development of a teaching module.

Dr Paul Roux and Dr Lesley Henley graduated with MPhil Degrees in Bioethics - the first two graduates from the inaugural course run by the Centre. They attended an intensive course on Research Ethics at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health under the sponsorship of the UCT Bioethics Centre's Fogarty International Development Grant, and have been appointed to the UCT Research Ethics Committee.

Dr Paul Roux convened and structured a three-day Paediatric Refresher Course at Red Cross Children’s Hospital, and gave a talk on Informed Consent in HIV/AIDS testing.

Our consultation service has been used quite extensively and this continues to be offered at several hospitals. In addition Prof Benatar has provided teaching/consultation sessions each at our community hospitals - once a month at each of Victoria, Jooste, Somerset and Conradie Hospitals.

A new policy for allocating scarce ICU resources for head injured patients, prepared jointly with the UCT Neurosurgery Department was approved for implementation by the Department of Health of the Western Cape in November 2001.

Prof S Benatar was "Scholar-in-Residence" for two weeks at the Tuskegee Bioethics Center in Tuskegee, Alabama, USA during which time he gave invited lectures in Tuskegee and at the University of Alabama, Morehouse, University School of Medicine, and the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. He also gave invited lectures at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York; the Rush Presbyterian St Luke's Hospital, Chicago USA; Basque University of Spain Summer Course.

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Prof S R Benatar:  Research Ethics (including International Research Ethics) and Global Bioethics

Dr David Benatar:  Moral Philosophy and Applied Ethics

Dr Augustine Shutte:  African Philosophy and its implications for Bioethics

Dr Lesley Henley:  End of life decisions – with special reference to a children’s hospital

Dr Paul Roux:  The Impact of Informed Consent with regard to HIV/AIDS in a children’s hospital

Mr Terry Fleischer:  Resource Allocation / Priority setting within the context of shrinking resources

Dr Steve Andrews:  Informed Consent in a multicultural setting

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES

Abratt, R P.  Clinical research in developing countries – ethical dilemmas. Radiotherapy and Oncology 2001;60:90-94.


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


**PUBLISHED CHAPTERS IN CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**


**THESES AND DISSERTATIONS PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES**


**UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF A POPULAR NATURE**


Benatar SR. Human rights in the era of biotechnology. LayMedix, 2001; 6(3) 1-4.


Fleischer TF. Neither bishops nor condomisers have the answers. The Sunday Independent 12 August 2001; pp 9.

**CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES BASED ON EXPERTISE DEVELOPMENT IN RESEARCH**

Prof S R Benatar

President International Association of Bioethics
Board of Directors – Ethics Institute of South Africa
Board of Trustees – Groote Schuur Hospital Trust
South African Scientific Advisor to the Novartis Foundation, London
Chairman UCT Committee of Ethics of Research
Editorial Advisory Board. Journal of Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

International

Abratt RP. Clinical research in developing countries – ethical dilemmas. International Congress of Radiation Oncology, Melbourne, Australia.


Benatar SR. Pittsfield Lecture: Tuberculosis: an example of the paradox between scientific progress and global health. International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease/ American Lung Association Conference (Chicago).

Benatar S R. Equity and Diversity: a global perspective. Invited presentation at a Conference on Ageing Research - Policy, Ethics and Life Sciences Research Institute, Newcastle-upon-Tyne UK.

Benatar S R. Fostering capacity for research ethics review in developing countries. Invited presentation on Research Ethics in Developing Countries. Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London UK.

National


OTHER

Invited named lecture

DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor P J Commerford

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: The Cardiac Clinic
E25 Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (021) 404 6084
Fax: (021) 448 7062
Email: pjcomfrd@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
The Cardiac Clinic provides an in- and outpatient clinical service in cardiology and training for registrars in the subspeciality. Research activities are predominantly clinical including evaluation of new pharmaceutical agents and adaptations of practice to suit local conditions.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor PJ Commerford: Heart failure, acute coronary syndromes, epidemiology, treatment.

Professor RN Scott Millar, Dr AM Okreglicki, Mrs Candice Henry: Arrhythmias, pacemakers, electrophysiology.

Dr BN Levetan: Interventional cardiology.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Professor Derek Yellon, Hatter Institute, UCL Medical School, London
Dr Malcolm Walker, Hatter Institute, UCL Medical School, London

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES BASED ON EXPERTISE DEVELOPED IN RESEARCH

Professor Commerford served on the International Steering Committee of OASIS-2, 3 and 4 and the Organising Committee of INTERHEART, a multinational investigation of inter-ethnic variation in risk factors for acute myocardial infarction (Canadian Cardiovascular Collaboration.)
DIVISION OF CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION – Associate Professor SR Ress

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Clinical Immunology Laboratory
H47 Old Main Building
Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (021) 4066201
Fax: (021) 4486815
Email: sress@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
Division of Clinical immunology provides a comprehensive diagnostic service to Groote Schuur and related teaching hospitals, including specialised investigations for the evaluation of immune function in patients with suspected immune deficiency. Research activities comprise the evaluation of cellular immunity in tuberculosis and lipid mediated inflammation. TB basic research evaluates protective immunity of cytotoxic T-cell activity, while collaborative studies are in progress on BCG vaccination (ICH, UCT). Collaborative research on the role of monocytes in inducing inflammation and atherosclerosis is undertaken with the Lipid unit, dept of medicine.

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor Stanley Ress: Immunology of tuberculosis, BCG vaccination, and Lipid disorders.

Dr MM Keraan: Immunology of Lipid disorders and tuberculosis.

M Watkins: Immunology of TB, BCG vaccination

PL Semple: Immunology of TB and lipid disorders

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


DIVISION OF DERMATOLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor Gail Todd

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal address: Division of Dermatology
Ward G23 Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
South Africa
Telephone: SA (21) 404-3376
Fax: SA (21) 47-8232
Email: dermatol@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

Education has been the highlight of the academic programme for the year 2001. In the current 6-year curriculum only 36 hours of dermatology is taught to undergraduates, despite the fact that skin diseases account for 20% of first time attendees at a primary level. Small group interactive teaching tutorials for the current undergraduates have been increased to 4 per week in addition to 22 formal lectures. The year 2001 saw our inclusion as examiners for the medical clinical examinations. This integration has heightened awareness of the importance of skin signs and symptoms in general medicine. Notwithstanding a small staff compliment, dermatology has actively contributed to the development of the new curriculum. Two skin disease cases have been included in Semesters 3 to 5 integrated problem orientated learning program and Dr Sue Jessop has been trained as a trainer of facilitators for this programme. With our heavy service load this added educational effort has meant our research output has suffered. However the long-term goals of a better-educated doctor, capable of dealing with skin diseases has been worth the price. Thanks to our dedicated departmental team who have made this additional effort possible.

The Department contributes to continuing professional development all year round; lecturing to various healthcare providers and participating in refresher courses as dermatology remains in great demand. An unprecedented increase in applications for dermatology registrar posts, which for some obscure reason have been cut nationally from 32 to 25, seriously threatens the continuation of our speciality at a time of great need. To meet this demand, and to improve community-delivered dermatology services, the Department intends introducing diploma courses in dermatology and paediatric dermatology in 2001. Doctors employed in the community and many GP’s have expressed a need for this training. Rotating sessional dermatology training posts are to be made available to doctors working in primary care delivery to complement this initiative.

The Department’s commitment to improving community services continues with the Dermatology Nurse Diploma Course run in collaboration with the Nursing Education Unit of Groote Schuur Hospital. One of the graduates, CPN Kelly, is employed from departmental research funds to co-ordinate dermatology day-care delivery in the community and CPN Nora Christians is the course director. Forty-three nurses from all over southern Africa have graduated in the past 5 years. Dermatology day-care centres pioneered in our department by CPN du Toit, operate in Westfleur (Atlantis), Hout Bay and Mitchell’s Plain and are run by dermatology nurse graduates. They act as primary care teaching nodes for the training of our dermatology nurses and hopefully future undergraduates. Similar services are operating in Gauteng, Umtata and Zimbabwe. This initiative has been internationally recognised by the inclusion of CPN Patricia Kelly in the International Skin Care Nursing Group, a recently constituted organisation that aims to promote the provision of skin care internationally. The concept has been adopted by Rotary for its Rotary Road to Skin Health campaign and local and international funding has been raised to support local clinic development and nurse training in under-serviced areas. The programme was up-graded in 2001 to include two one-week modules on wound care and leprosy and is now a recommended programme of the International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations.

Dr Susan Jessop has been deeply involved with the development of teaching and learning skills in the department in 2001. She completed a semester course on “Learning and Teaching in Higher Education”, offered by the UCT Centre for Higher Education Development. She has been closely involved with the development of the new medical curriculum and the training of facilitators for Problem-Orientated Learning.

Dr Pat Lawrence continues to develop a paediatric dermatology service, the first of its kind in Southern Africa, working full time at Red Cross Hospital. This service forms part of the Department of Child Health and a diploma course in the sub-speciality is planned for the future. She spent 6 months in the Dermatology Department of West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds in the UK.
Dr Laduma Ngwanya joined the permanent staff as a senior consultant in a 5/8 capacity. His special interest in dermatopathology will help to fill the void left by Professor Norma Saxe and his interests in hair pathology will allow for more specialised departmental expertise.

Two new registrars were appointed, Dr Sandra Pather and Dr Gavin Gottschalk. Dr Nonhlanhla Khumalo was welcomed back as a part-time registrar after completing a fellowship at Oxford developing her special interests in blistering disorders and diseases of the hair and scalp.

Dr A Johaar, a consultant dermatologist from Malaysia, spent time in our department developing expertise in occupational skin diseases and contact dermatitis. Dr U Raabe continues to provide invaluable support as a supernumerary registrar.

Beach clinics, voluntarily manned by local dermatologists, which publicise the dangers of sunlight with regard to skin cancer, again took place over December 2000 and January 2001 in collaboration with the Cancer Association of South Africa and Rotary (Lion’s Head). During this time 194 patients were seen and 16 skin cancers referred for management. This community project is organised by Dr Cecile Keyzer.

A collaborative project with Professor Hywell Williams, University of Nottingham, funded by a 3-year Wellcome Grant, on atopic eczema in rural, peri-urban and urban communities in South Africa, was initiated in 2000. Two thousand children in urban Langa and rural Transkei have been seen. A final group of 1000 children from the peri-urban Joe Slovo informal settlement will be completed in 2002, hopefully without further episodes of hijacking at the hands of gun-wielding teenagers. Additional information on the range of skin diseases encountered in the different areas of South Africa will be of value for health service delivery planning.

Unseasonable weather and strikes notwithstanding, 250 workers in the seafood industry on the West Coast were examined and patch tested as part of a collaborative project with the Department of Community Health.

The National Centre for Occupational Skin Disease, a national collaborative project run under the auspices of the South African Society of Occupational Medicine, co-ordinated through the Department will supply allergens nationally in the New Year as well as contributing to a series of planned national workshops.

The University of Cape Town, Skin & Hair Centre at the UCT Lung Institute has become established as a complimentary service for colleagues in private practice offering specialist referral services and facilities for outpatient management of skin diseases. It has complimented our public service commitment by accommodating day-care patients from Groote Schuur Hospital who were unable to continue treatment following irreparable breakdown in outdated phototherapy equipment. The Centre also provides space essential for clinical and applied research, as the department has no space provision at the University of Cape Town. Surplus funds generated at the Centre are to be used for financing the department’s running and research activities, which would otherwise be severely limited because of minimal financial support. Emeritus Professor Norma Saxe acts as the manager of the Institute.

**PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF**

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Associate Professor Gail Todd: Head of Department; Prevalence and cost of childhood atopic dermatitis in rural, urban and periurban settlements around Cape Town, South Africa, collaborative project with the University of Nottingham; Occupational dermatoses amongst seafood workers and occupational allergy associated with rock lobster and salt water bony fish processing in South Africa, collaborative projects with the Department of Community Health and University of Michigan, USA; Patch testing and atopic eczema, collaborative study Dermatology Departments in UK, Tanzania and South Africa; All aspects of vitiligo especially national epidemiology.

Dr Susan Jessop: The use of functional measures in systemic sclerosis in collaboration Department of Rheumatic Diseases. Treatments for discoid lupus erythematosus in collaboration with the Departments of Dermatology and Rheumatic Diseases Unit, University of Stellenbosch and The Cochrane Skin Group, Nottingham.

Dr Gavin Gottschalk: Won the Galderma Fellowship for dermatology research. He will further his interests in the molecular basis of vitiligo in collaboration with the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology.

RESEARCHERS

S. Tolosana (research assistant – full-time): Prevalence and cost of childhood atopic dermatitis in rural, urban and informal settlements around Cape Town, South Africa, collaborative project with the University of Nottingham (Wellcome grant).

P. Kelly (senior sister – part-time): Delivery of primary and secondary dermatological care. The role of the dermatology nurse and the establishment of community dermatology day-care centres.


RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


CONGRESS ABSTRACTS


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS OF A POPULAR NATURE

Todd G. Contact Dermatitis. Allergy Society of South Africa Information Sheet. 2001


THE FOLLOWING STAFF PRESENTED POSTERS/PAPERS AT CONGRESSES IN 2000/2001:
Professor Gail Todd (British Association of Dermatologists 81st Annual Meeting, Cardiff; 9th World Congress of Paediatric Dermatology, Cancun; The South African Society of Occupational Medicine Cape Summer Congress, Spier); Dr Sue Jessop (Annual Congress of the South African Dermatology Association, Egoli 2001 Gauteng); Dr NP Khumalo (Annual Congress of the South African Dermatology Association, Egoli 2001 Gauteng); Dr G Gottschalk (Annual Congress of the South African Dermatology Association, Egoli 2001 Gauteng); Dr Laduma Ngwanya (European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology Congress, Munich); CPN Patricia Kelly British Association of Dermatologists 81st Annual Meeting, Cardiff, International Skin Care Nursing Group Symposium Southampton, The Skin and Wound Care Conference for African Nurses, Moshi, Tanzania); CPN Nora Christians (The Skin and Wound Care Conference for African Nurses, Moshi, Tanzania), CPN Lorna Morrissey (The Skin and Wound Care Conference for African Nurses, Moshi, Tanzania).

CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Members of the department act as consultants and serve on many committees at local, national and international level in addition to their routine commitments. This ensures that our dermatology service continues to function at a high standard and that dermatology, as a speciality, is not marginalised during health reforms.

We intend expanding the clinical drug trials with which we have been actively involved to generate funds necessary for dermatology teaching, research and services to be sustained and developed in the future.
DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY & DIABETES

HEAD OF DIVISION OF DIABETIC MEDICINE - Professor F. Bonnici
HEAD OF DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY - Associate Professor N S Levitt

CONTACT DETAILS

Postal Address: Divisions of Endocrinology & Diabetic Medicine
Department of Medicine
Faculty of Health Sciences
Observatory
7925
South Africa

Telephone: SA (21) 406-6140
Fax: SA (21) 448-6815
E-mail: suebotha@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The Divisions of Endocrinology and Diabetic Medicine which overlap in areas of interest including research, provide comprehensive clinical and laboratory services to the UCT Teaching Hospital Group, an educational training programme for under- and post-graduate students and fulfil a broad spectrum of research activities. Prof Peter Gray joined the Divisions this year on a part-time basis.

The Division of Endocrinology is actively engaged in ongoing research in osteoporosis, adrenal disorders and the foetal origins of chronic diseases. International, national and intra-institutional collaborations exist with the Universities of Edinburgh, Cambridge, Newcastle, British Columbia, the South African Medical Research Council and within UCT, with the departments of Chemical Pathology and Neonatology and the Sports Science Institute. This research focuses on the pathogenesis of diabetes and obesity, the epidemiology of diabetes and its complications, the prevention of diabetic complications, genetics of diabetes, diabetes health systems research, polycystic ovarian syndrome, mechanisms underlying the association between low birth weight and adult onset chronic disorders, newer tests for the evaluation of adrenal disorders and pharmacological trials in osteoporosis and diabetes. The members of the Division have been the recipients of major grants from the Medical Research Council.

The Division of Diabetic Medicine is instituting a Young Adult's programme as a natural extension of its already successful Adolescent Transition Care. Research is focusing on intensification of metabolic control with new insulin regimes, long-term psychosocial integration and immunotherapy for the prevention of type 1 diabetes. A phase I study, investigating the pharmacokinetic and immune responses to an altered peptide ligand in young volunteer subjects with type 1 diabetes, inaugurated the new premises of the Pharmacokinetic Unit at the Lung Institute. FDA approval has been obtained for Phase II of the study on newly diagnosed patients for which Dr A Philotheou will be national coordinator.

With the help of the Phumeza Mawonga Diabetes Fund, supported by UCT, the SA Diabetes Association and the corporate pharmaceutical sector, novel avenues of cultural, religious and social self-expression are being explored and evaluated as a means of promoting diabetes awareness, self-management and social upliftment in the African communities of Cape Town.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

**Professor F Bonnici**: Genetic and molecular studies in growth hormone disorders; phase 4 insulin analogue studies in type 1 and 2 diabetes; phase 1 pharmacokinetic and immune response studies of an altered peptide ligand in the prevention of type 1 diabetes.

**Associate Professor N S Levitt**: Diabetes and hypertension health systems research; genetics of diabetes, mechanisms for and prevention of complications of diabetes, the foetal origins of chronic diseases, the glycaemic index of foods and pharmaceutical trials in the management of diabetes.

**Dr B Ascott-Evans**: Osteoporosis; drug research with bisphosphonates; treatment of type 2 diabetes using novel insulin secretagogues, and insulin analogues.

**Dr S Soule**: Primary hyperaldosteronism; evaluation of adrenal function.

**Dr A Philotheou**: Psychosocial adaptation in youth-onset diabetes; phase II insulin analogue studies and evaluation of a continuous subcutaneous glucose measuring device; phase I pharmacokinetic and immune response studies of an altered peptide ligand in the prevention of type 1 diabetes.

**Prof I P Gray**: Pathogenesis of diabetes and obesity.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


PUBLICATIONS OF A POPULAR NATURE

ABSTRACTS


Levitt NS, E.V. Lambert, D. Woods, CN. Hales and JR Seckl. Birthweight and subsequent growth interaction amplifies low birth weight phenotype effect on blood pressure and insulin resistance. EASD, Glasgow, September, 2001,


Soule S, Kaplan F, Levitt NS. How Common is Primary Hypoadrenalism in Hospitalised Patients with Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis? 37th Annual SEMDSA Congress and 10th Bone and Mineral Meeting, Sandton, 1 - 6 April 2001

CONSULTANCIES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES BASED ON EXPERTISE IN RESEARCH

Prof F Bonnici: Consultative Section on Education and Section on Childhood and Adolescent Diabetes of the International Diabetes Federation; Contributor, ISPAD Consensus Guidelines for the Management of type 1 diabetes; Board of Trustees, CDE Education Foundation; Expert Diabetes Education Study Group of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes; International Editorial Advisory Board, Practical Diabetes International; WHO Expert Advisory Panel (Diabetes).


Dr B H Ascott-Evans: National Advisory Board on Bisphosphonates. Consultancy service (academic expert/opinion leader) to 3 international pharmaceutical companies involved in Osteoporosis, and 2 in Diabetes - related to track record in international clinical research and academic standing.
**Dr S Soule**: Member of Organising Committee Osteoporosis Congress – Densitometry Course, Cape Town Oct 2000. Member of Executive Committee of National Osteoporosis Foundation 2000. Member of SEMDSA Executive Committee 2000.

**Dr A Philotheou**: Chairperson, Board of Trustees, CDE Education Foundation; Advisory Board, SADA Diabetes Focus; National Coordinator, Phase I and II Diabetes Vaccine Studies.
DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor Japie Louw

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: GI Clinic, E23
New Main Building
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Observatory 7925
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DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
The Gastrointestinal Clinic is a multi-disciplinary clinical unit consisting of Medical and Surgical components. This report primarily reflects the Medical component. The Clinic carries a large clinical load and offers a number of specialised services, with clinical and applied research interests in: Hepatobiliary disease; Colorectal disease; Oesophageal disease; Inflammatory bowel disease; H. pylori related disease; and Nutrition. The Clinic is involved in a number of collaborative research projects

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

**Professor Japie Louw:** The relationship between gastroesophageal reflux and asthma (with M. Letier and Respiratory Clinic); Gastroesophageal reflux disease: assessment of predictors of surgical outcome, audit of surgical outcome (with Surgery); Achalasia: evaluation of treatment modalities (with Surgery); the pathobiology of Barrett’s oesophagus (with G Watermeyer/Cvan Rensburg [TBH] ); drug trials - various.

**Dr Trevor Winter:** Inflammatory bowel disease and Nutrition: genetic studies in IBD (collaborative work with Oxford and Christian Albrechts University, Kiel, Germany), drug trials with novel agents.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS


THESES AND DISSERTATIONS PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES

DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE
and INSTITUTE OF AGEING IN AFRICA

HEAD OF INSTITUTE OF AGEING IN AFRICA - Professor Monica Ferreira
ACTING HEAD OF DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE - Dr SZ Kalula

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal address: Institute of Ageing in Africa
Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Cape Town
Observatory
7925
South Africa
Telephone: 27 21 406-6538
Fax: 27 21 448-6815
Email: gerontol@cormack.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

INSTITUTE PROFILE

The Institute of Ageing in Africa (IAA) was established as a Cross-Disciplinary Group on 1 April 2001. It represents a coalescence of three former units in the faculty with a specific focus on ageing in an independent entity: the Division of Geriatric Medicine, the Psychogeriatrics Service and the HSRC/UCT Centre for Gerontology. The IAA's vision is to be an academic, training and research centre of excellence and relevance in Africa.

Its mission is to facilitate the delivery of the highest standard of inter-disciplinary, in-context training for health and allied professionals, and evidence-based clinical and social care for older persons, whilst undertaking appropriate research and audit upon which policy and planning for older persons may be based. The mission is achieved through inter-disciplinary partnerships and teamwork; human resource development; and continuous risk assessment within current legal, ethical and financial constraints.

The IAA is a leader in the area of research on ageing in sub-Saharan Africa and enjoys international recognition and acclaim. Research projects comprise a substantial element of training and the development of research capacity, as well as a high degree of implementability, and draw in policy makers, planners and community agencies. Several projects are conducted collaboratively with researchers in other African countries.

Current research projects include: (1) The development of an assessment protocol for use in the IAA’s Memory Clinic; the development of culture-appropriate cognitive function measurement instruments; and the establishment of a data bank of client profiles, the spectrum of mental disease, and community care and services demand and supply. (2) The establishment of a stroke data bank. (3) Lipid studies. (4) The establishment of a Minimum Data Set on ageing and older persons under a World Health Organisation–co-ordinated programme in four African countries. (5) A bi-national (Brazil and South Africa) survey of pensioner households to determine the impact of the social pension on household poverty alleviation, in collaboration with investigators at the University of Manchester, UK. (6) An ethnographic study “to give voices to older South Africans,” in collaboration with investigators at the University of the Western Cape and the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, under the SANPAD programme.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor Monica Ferreira: Director; social gerontology, population ageing, health sociology, economics of ageing, social impact of HIV/AIDS, late-life dementia, ageing in Africa.

Dr Sebastiana Kalula: Senior Specialist; Acting Head, Division of Geriatric Medicine; epidemiology of dementia, upper gastrointestinal bleeding, needs assessment, dementia drug trials.

Dr Jane Saunders: Specialist, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health; Head, Psychogeriatric Service; dementia, HIV-related mental illness, psychiatric/medical ethics, psycho-pharmacological guidelines.

Dr Linda de Villiers: Specialist, Geriatric Medicine Unit; stroke risk factors and rehabilitation. CT head in stroke and dementia drug trials.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH REPORT


PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND ABSTRACTS


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS OF A POPULAR NATURE


DISSERTATION PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREE


CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES BASED ON EXPERTISE DEVELOPED IN RESEARCH

Dr Monica Ferreira

Executive board member of the African Gerontological Society (AGES International). Executive Committee member of the South African Geriatrics Society.
Invited member of the United Nations’ Technical Committee to review the International Plan of Action on Ageing.
Elected research co-ordinator of the World Health Organisation Minimum Data Set on Ageing and Older Persons in Africa project.
Key speaker in a United Nations/International Federation on Ageing Consultative meetings in Pune, India in Agugust.
Zerilda Droskie Memorial Lecture to the South African Gerontological Association in Cape Town in May.
Invited speaker in the Symposium on Ageing in the South African Context: Capacity Building for students in the Health Sciences in Cape Town in February.
Invited speaker in the Workshop on Transformation of Health Services for Older Persons in Cape Town in March.
Guest speaker to the Annual General Meeting of Ikamva Labantu in Guguletu in June.
Guest speaker to the Biennial General Meeting of the Association of Retired Persons & pensioners in Cape Town in September.

Dr S.Z. Kalula

Executive Committee member of the South African Geriatrics Society.
Executive Committee member of the South African Gerontological Association.
Invited speaker in the Workshop on Transformation of Health Services for Older Persons in Cape Town in March.
Invited speaker in the Symposium on Ageing in the South African Context: Capacity Building for Students in the Health Sciences in Cape Town in February.
Invited co-ordinator of a Workshop on Ageing and health in the Biennial Conference of Age in Action in Grahamstown in September.

Dr L. De Villiers

Executive Committee member of the South African Geriatrics Society.
Co-ordinator of research in Stroke Unit.

*The research output of Dr Jane Saunders is listed under Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health.
HATTER INSTITUTE FOR CARDIOLOGY RESEARCH

DIRECTOR - Dr Michael N Sack

CONTACT DETAILS
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Medical School
Observatory, 7925
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Telephone: (021) 406 6358
Fax: (021) 447 8789
Email: sack@capeheart.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
The Hatter Institute is predominantly a laboratory-based research division within the Department of Medicine. The research focus includes the evaluation of cardiac protection against ischemia and the delineation of the molecular, cellular mechanisms underlying the transition from cardiac hypertrophy to heart failure.

A number of collaborative research initiatives have been established both in Cape Town and internationally. These include:

1. Links between the Hatter Institutes, University College London and Cape Town: For the fifth consecutive year, formal collaboration between these institutes will be celebrated by the presentation Cardiology at the Limits – V in Cape Town during April 2002. This symposium brings together experts in Cardiology from the USA, Europe and South Africa. The link with University College London has also resulted in obtaining combined funding for research from the Wellcome Trust in the UK.

2. Collaboration with the University of the Western Cape: Professor Daneel Dietrich of the Department of Physiological Sciences, University of the Western Cape, has entered into a long-term research collaboration with us. She is now doing important preliminary research to enable her to apply for a distinguished Wellcome Trust Award in the United Kingdom. The collaboration which will be developed between the University of Cape Town and the University of the Western Cape during the tenure of such a fellowship is intended to be of an ongoing nature, so that the training of historically disadvantaged science students in South Africa will be facilitated by this plan.

3. Collaboration with the Cardiac Clinic – GSH: Numerous clinicians in the laboratory work concurrently in the cardiac clinic. In addition, Dr Chris McLeod is supported, in part, by the Cardiac Clinic Research Fund.

Additional Research Collaborative Initiatives

1. Washington University Medical School, St. Louis, MO, USA. Collaborative study with Dr Daniel P. Kelly - Center for Cardiovascular Research.
2. University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA, USA. Collaborative Study with Dr Ken Chien.
3. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, USA. DR Peipei Ping.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Associate Professor Michael Sack: cardiac protection; cardiac energy metabolism
Professor Lionel Opie: cardiac protection; cardiac energy metabolism
Professor Derek Yellon: cardiac protection
Professor Daneel Dietrich: cardiac protection
Dr Faadiel Essop: cardiac energy metabolism
Dr Chris McLeod: cardiac protection
Dr Sandrine Lecour: cardiac protection
Dr Steven Louw: cardiac protection
Dr Jan Minners: cardiac protection
Dr Rob Smith: cardiac protection
Ms Lydia Lacerda: cardiac protection
Ms Joy McCarthy: cardiac energy metabolism

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


Smith RM, McCarthy J, Sack MN. TNF-alpha is required for hypoxia-mediated right ventricular hypertrophy. Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry 2001; 219: 139-143.


Roverkamp BT, Minners J, Opie LH. Opioid preconditioning extends to post-ischemic recovery of contractile function as shown with a novel opioid delta selective agonist, SB 235863A, that acts on the mitochondrial K(ATP) channel. Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy 2001; 15: 89-90.


BOOKS

L H Opie, D M Yellon (Editors). Cardiology at the Limits IV. Stanford Writers, Cape Town, 2001. (179 pages)


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


THESIS AND DISSERTATIONS

Meiring JJ. MSc Thesis (2001). The protective role of tumour necrosis factor alpha in the heart.
HYPERTENSION CLINIC

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor Brian Rayner

CONTACT DETAILS
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DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The Division of Hypertension has expanded its research activities considerably in the past few years. Our main research activity has focused on the causes and investigation of low renin hypertension in conjunction with the Department of Chemical Pathology and the Division of Endocrinology. These research projects include: i) normal ranges for renin and aldosterone, the prevalence, and practical investigation and treatment of primary aldosteronism ii) mutations and polymorphisms in the epithelial sodium channel (ENaC). These 2 areas of research are the major research strengths of the division. In particular the ENaC research has resulted in the identification of a new mutation causing Liddle’s syndrome, which appears to be particularly prevalent in Blacks. This is a groundbreaking discovery and opens a whole new dimension for our research.

Other research projects includes;
i) Ace genotype and activity in black African populations in conjunction with Hugh Montgomery from the UCL Centre for Cardiovascular Genetics in London
ii) Genome wide scanning for genetic causes of hypertension in conjunction with Dept of Genetics
iii) Clinical research into the effects of differing angiotensin receptor blockers on uric acid and endothelial function in hypertensive patients, and aortic unfolding as a marker of target organ damage.
iv) Contract research.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Prof. Brian Rayner: Clinical research; Primary aldosteronism; Genetics of Hypertension; Low Renin Hypertension; Contract Research

Prof. Lionel Opie: Clinical research; Primary aldosteronism; Genetics of Hypertension; Low Renin Hypertension.

Dr. Yvonne Trinder: Contract Research

Dr. Veronica Steenkamp: Contract Research
RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


ABSTRACTS

Rayner BL, Opie LH, Trinder YA, Davidson JS. Primary aldosteronism; a community based survey in 3 ethnic communities in Cape Town, South Africa. American Journal of Hypertension 2000; 13: 175A.


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF POPULAR NATURE

DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor Gary Maartens

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Ward G4
New Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (021) 404.3474
Fax: (021) 448.6815
Email: gary@curie.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
The Infectious Diseases Unit has research interests in the fields of tuberculosis and HIV. We have collaborations with the Rockefeller University, New York (Gilla Kaplan - the immune response to tuberculosis), Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore (Richard Chaisson – smear-negative tuberculosis) and McGill University, Montreal (Eduard Beck - HIV resource utilisation). We have an HIV clinical trial centre (run by Prof Robin Wood) which conducts phase 2 & 3 drug trials. We have just embarked on a prospective study on the diagnosis of tuberculosis in HIV-infected adults.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM STAFF:

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RESEARCH FIELDS
Associate Professor G Maartens: tuberculosis; HIV
Associated Professor R Wood: HIV therapy
Dr L-G Bekker: Immunology of tuberculosis, HIV

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREEED ARTICLES


PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

DIVISION OF LIPIDOLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor AD Marais

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Lipid Laboratory
Cape Heart Centre
University of Cape Town
Anzio Road
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (021) 4066166
Fax: (021) 4066396
Email: Lizphil@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The lipid clinic and laboratory continued to provide expert clinical and diagnostic service during the year for major gene disorders of lipid and lipoprotein metabolism and, in doing so, gathered information about the genetic causes of the dyslipidaemias in the region. The main thrust in clinical research is the use of newer therapeutic agents (chiefly hydroxy-methylglutaryl coenzyme A inhibitors or statins) but a fibrate and phytosterols were also evaluated. The main thrust of the laboratory research was to develop diagnostic procedures for dysbetalipoproteinaemia and to study the impact of statins on lipoprotein composition and concentration in homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia.

Collaborative research with the department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology involving Prof. J Anthony and Dr R Burton as well as Prof. P Hall from the department of Pathology has been expanded to cover dyslipoproteinaemia in pregnancy relating to apolipoprotein E polymorphisms as well as the occurrence of acute fatty liver of pregnancy with long chain hydroxyacyl dehydrogenase deficiency.

The collaboration with the Department of Physiology at the University of Western Australia continued this year in the study of remnant-like particle clearance using stable isotopes and their enrichment in breath. A collaborative study was also established to establish whether genetic markers identified in the Netherlands are present in the Afrikaner population, amongst the general practitioners of Robertson in the Western Cape and the Genetics department at Leiden University and Internal Medicine department of Nijmegen University in the Netherlands. At the beginning of the year gas chromatography was commenced for identification of sterols when Prof. G R Thompson of the Hammersmith Hospital in London donated an old but functional machine. The gas chromatography will hopefully extend to fatty acids as well. Towards the end of the year an ultrasound investigation into carotid intima media thickness was begun in collaboration with Prof. E de Groot of the University of Amsterdam. The collaboration with Prof. N Purdie from Oklahoma State University involves a modified Chugaev reaction in the work-up of dyslipidaemia.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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| Technical Support Staff| 5 |          |
| Administrative staff    | 2 |          |
| TOTAL                  | 15|          |

RESEARCH FIELDS

A D Marais: causes of dyslipidaemia; diagnostic procedures for dyslipidaemias using gradient gel electrophoresis; Chugaev reaction for identifying dyslipidaemia; newer therapeutic agents for dyslipidaemia; genotype-phenotype
interactions in familial hypercholesterolaemia; dyslipoproteinaemia of pregnancy; turnover of lipoproteins; surrogate markers for atherosclerosis in severe dyslipidaemia.

S G Soule: diabetic dyslipidaemia.

D J Blom: gradient gel electrophoresis in the diagnosis of dysbetalipoproteinaemia; acute fatty liver of pregnancy; impact of statins and fibrates on lipoproteins in dysbetalipoproteinaemia.

J C Firth: Physical signs and genotype-phenotype interactions in familial hypercholesterolaemia; therapy of heterozygous as well as homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia; ezetimibe for sitosterolaemia.

KH Wolmarans: therapy of heterozygous as well as homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia; cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis in western cape; dyslipidaemia in coronary care unit.

DM Blackhurst: peroxidation of unsaturated fatty acids and the antioxidant effect of wine

RG Marillier: matrix metalloproteinase assays; influence of matrix metalloproteinase on atherosclerosis

Z Hamdulay: phytosterol supplementation in familial hypercholesterolaemia

HR Davies: antioxidant properties of tea

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


THESES

Blom DJ. M Med Medicine, University of Cape Town. Polyacrylamide gradient gel electrophoresis for the diagnosis of dysbetalipoproteinaemia (Type III) hyperlipidaemia. Pages 1-126.
DIVISION OF HEPATOLOGY /
MRC/UCT LIVER RESEARCH CENTRE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Professor RE Kirsch
CO-DIRECTOR – Professor D. Kahn

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: MRC/UCT Liver Research Centre
Departments of Medicine and Surgery
University of Cape Town
Medical School
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (21) 406-6200
Fax: (21) 447-9670
Email: ralph@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The Centre is multidisciplinary and its members consist of physicians, surgeons, biochemists, immunologists and pathologists. Apart from its laboratories in the Departments of Medicine, Surgery, Biochemistry, virology and Anatomical Pathology the Centre runs the only multidisciplinary, comprehensive, liver clinic, including a liver transplantation program, in Africa.

The Centre’s Mission is to serve as a national resource by:

1. increasing the understanding of the liver in health and disease
2. identifying and studying diseases of the liver which occur in Southern Africa
3. identifying and studying measures capable of preventing liver disease
4. identifying and studying methods of improving the health of patients with liver disease
5. disseminating information which will allow health authorities and health workers to prevent liver disease, to promote health by emphasising dangers such as alcohol abuse and to improve the care of patients with already existing liver disease
6. developing human resources capable of continuing to fulfil our mission and in doing so to give preference where possible to persons disadvantaged as a result of discrimination on the basis of their race or gender.

Major areas of research include: porphyria, viral hepatitis, chronic hepatitis, immune abnormalities in liver disease, immunosuppressive factors in the venom of bitis arietans, the role of hepatic stem cells in experimental cirrhosis, liver transplantation, the pathogenesis of cardiovascular changes in portal hypertension, the role of portal systemic shunting in abnormal energy metabolism of liver disease, laparoscopic cholecystectomy, the treatment of bile duct calculi, the management of portal hypertension, and new methods of liver resection.

The Centre currently collaborates with 5 overseas and 3 South African universities and with 9 Departments within UCT.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

| Professors | 4 | HONORARY STAFF | 3 |
| Associate Professors | 6 | TOTAL | 3 |
| Senior Lecturers | 9 | STUDENTS | 
| Senior Research Officers | 10 | PhD students | 8 |
| Technical Support Staff | 10 | TOTAL | 8 |
| TOTAL | 39 | | |
RESEARCH FIELDS

Kirsch RE: Medical education, health services, porphyria, hepatitis, infection and liver disease, cardiovascular manifestations of portal hypertension

Terblanche J: Management of portal hypertension, new methods of liver resection laparoscopic cholecystectomy, treatment of bile duct calculi

Bornman PC: Management of portal hypertension, new methods of liver resection laparoscopic cholecystectomy, treatment of bile duct calculi.

Hall P: Alcoholic liver disease, chronic hepatitis, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis.

Kahn D: liver transplantation, liver regeneration

Kringe JEJ: Management of portal hypertension, new methods of liver resection laparoscopic cholecystectomy, treatment of bile duct calculi

Miller AJW: Liver transplantation

Shephard EG: Immunology of liver disease

Campbell JAH: Experimental cirrhosis

Hift RJ: Porphyria, iron overload

Spearman CWN: Liver transplantation

Matsiliza N: Cardiovascular manifestations of portal hypertension

Corrigall AV: Porphyria

Mall A: The role of mucus in the pathogenesis of gallstones

Meissner PN: Porphyria

Sturrock E: Angiotensin converting enzyme

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


Krige JEJ, Beckingham IJ. Portal hypertension. Where is the evidence for 5% dextrose and a pulmonary artery catheter? British Medical Journal 2001; 322: 1492.


**CHAPTERS IN BOOKS**


CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Dr MD Pascoe

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Renal Unit
E13 Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: (021) 404 3318
Fax: (021) 448 2349
Email: pascoe@curie.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The department continued to follow many of the same research directions as in the previous year. The various members of the department have been actively involved in contract research in the fields of transplantation immunosuppression and renal osteodystrophy. A prospective study of acute renal failure has been conducted to evaluate the outcome of this condition in Groote Schuur hospital.

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associate Professors</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Lecturers</td>
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<td>Medical Registrars (1 senior)</td>
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<td>International Society of Nephrology Fellow</td>
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RESEARCH FIELDS

**Dr M D Pascoe:** Fine needle aspiration biopsy of renal allografts; Renal pathology with HIV disease; Factors influencing long term renal graft survival; Cost effective drug strategies in transplantation. New immunosuppression protocols for renal transplantation.

**Dr J A Halkett:** Anaemia and iron metabolism in chronic renal failure; Aluminium overload in haemodialysis patients; Acute renal failure: Demographics and outcome at Groote Schuur Hospital; Renal pathology with HIV disease; Renal osteodystrophy.

**Associate Professor B L Rayner:** Research activities are based in the hypertension clinic. Nil renal.

**Associate Professor C R Swanepoel:** Renal osteodystrophy & lanthanum carbonate; New immunosuppressive drugs in systemic lupus erythematosis.

**Associate Professor R van Zyl Smit:** Genetics of renal disease, chronic renal failure, focal sclerosing glomerulonephritis, proteinuric disease; Lipid abnormalities post transplantation.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF A POPULAR NATURE.


DIVISION OF NEUROLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor RW Eastman

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: E8, New Groote Schuur Hospital
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DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
Neurology provides a comprehensive clinical and neurophysiological service to the region and nationally, in addition to training undergraduate and postgraduate students and in undertaking clinical research and development.

A number of our activities are unique in national public academic hospitals including an acute Stroke Unit, an epilepsy surgery programme, a Myasthenia Gravis Clinic and a Neurogenetics Clinic with special expertise in the spinocerebellar ataxias. In each instance, these activities provide not only a national resource, but also generate research findings relevant to our context. Of interest is the fact that much of the necessary equipment has been provided through the fund-raising efforts of our staff.

The Stroke Unit, run jointly with the Division of Geriatrics, is developing a model for modern stroke management in the public sector. The protocols will be of use for the training of medical, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and logopaedic staff in the primary and secondary tiers of the healthcare system.

The Myasthenia Gravis Clinic has pioneered the use of intensive therapy for this disabling condition, which has demonstrably improved the quality of life for such patients.

The epilepsy surgery programme continues to provide the resources and expertise to allow this cost-effective and often curative therapy to occur. The Neurogenetics Clinic, run jointly with the Department of Genetics, sees a wide variety of conditions and provides clinical care, counselling and molecular diagnosis.

The Division is also active in continuing medical education, including outreach and in developing computer-aided teaching methods.

Dr. B Kies was promoted to Associate Professor, and Dr. E Lee Pan was appointed as Faculty Portfolio Manager for Information Technology.

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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<th>Position</th>
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RESEARCH FIELDS

Assoc. Prof R W Eastman: Epilepsy, epilepsy surgery, EMG, EEG

Assoc. Prof B M Kies: Epilepsy, Parkinson’s disease, continuing medical education

Dr A Bryer: Stroke, neuro-genetics, spinocerebellar ataxia
Dr E B Lee Pan: Computer-based medical education, health systems information technology

Dr J Heckmann: Myasthenia gravis, neuro-immunology, neuro-genetics, HIV-related neuropathies.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Prof G Baker (Liverpool)
Prof N Wood (London)
Prof T Brandt (Munich)
Prof D Calme (Vancouver)

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

DIVISION OF NUTRITION & DIETETICS

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor Karen Charlton

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: J Floor, OMB
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Fax: (021) 448 6815
Email: kc@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za
Dbransby@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za (secretary)

DEPARTMENT PROFILE

The Nutrition and Dietetics Unit was established in 1990 and is the only facility to offer postgraduate training in nutrition in the country, and indeed the region of Southern Africa, to enable science graduates to become state-registered dietitians, after following a 2-year postgraduate Bachelor of Science Medical Honours degree course. The Unit attracts mature students from a range of science backgrounds. In addition to the Honours programme, the unit currently also has students registered for Masters’ degrees, by dissertation only.

Associate Professor Karen Charlton is the recipient of a three-year Unifoods Doctoral fellowship which is administered through the Chronic Diseases of Lifestyle Programme at the Medical Research Council. A randomized controlled trial is being undertaken to assess the association between salt sensitivity, potassium supplementation, body composition and blood pressure in black South African subjects.

HIV/AIDS has been declared a global emergency by the World Health Organization. Affordable and effective interventions are urgently required for the management of HIV/AIDS patients in sub-Saharan Africa. Mrs. Marianne Visser is currently involved as co-author of a Cochrane systematic review that aims to assess whether micronutrient interventions are effective in reducing morbidity and mortality among HIV-infected children and adults.

An important study of the Unit demonstrated alarming national statistics, in terms of lack of access to food. Using a definition of food poverty as being present if monthly food spending is less than the cost of a nutritionally adequate very low-cost diet, 43 % of households in South Africa in 1995 were in food poverty. Food poverty rates were highest among households headed by Africans, large households, those in rural areas or those headed by women. The study has provided the means for targeting of nutritional interventions and for monitoring progress in this field.

Staff members of our Unit, along with academic staff from other departments and various African universities, participated in a two-day workshop on HIV/AIDS during May 2001. The workshop formed part of the USHEPiA programme and the main purpose of the workshop was to identify key research areas in HIV/AIDS. One of the key research areas identified by this workshop was nutrition and a protocol was subsequently developed by members of this sub-group to identify appropriate food-based nutrition interventions for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Two nutritionists from the National Food and Nutrition Commission in Zambia joined our unit during the past year, with the aim of completing their Masters degrees in Nutrition and Dietetics at the end of 2002. Ms. Siyandi and Ms. Kawana are both funded by USAID and will be conducting research in the areas of maternal and child health, respectively. Ms. Siyandi’s project will aim to investigate the gaps in the knowledge, attitudes and practices of health workers and pregnant women in the Ndola district of Zambia in relation to the prevention and treatment of iron deficiency anaemia. In addition, her research will document the adequacy of screening tests for the detection of anaemia. The identification of severely anaemic women is of critical importance, as these women are at high risk in terms of perinatal mortality. Ms Kawana will be assessing the effectiveness of a Growth Monitoring Programme, following implementation of training among primary health care workers at clinics and among lay community health workers in the Kitwe district of Zambia.

As part of ongoing research interest in the field of the aetiology and management of obesity in black women, another Masters student will be investigating the dietary and lifestyle habits of obese mothers and their 6-year old offspring in a case-control study design.

In addition to teaching and research activities, the Unit has a comprehensive outreach extension service, run under the auspices of the Nestle Nutrition Resources Centre which is housed within the Unit. Partnerships have continued with
communities in Heideveld, Hout Bay, Woodstock and in George. New relationships have been forged with NGO’s involved with the provision of nutritional services to HIV orphans and the vegetable garden foundation. This year, dietetics honours students conducted a survey to determine the nutritional status of 600 pre- and primary school children in the Greyton and Genadendal area of the Western Cape. Feedback to key community role players and Department of Health nutrition staff will assist in empowering this community to further address their nutritional needs.

**PERMANENT AND LONGTERM CONTRACT STAFF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAFF</th>
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</table>
| A.Prof/ Head of Unit         | 1
| Lecturer                     | 1
| Assistant lecturers          | 2
| Part-time lecturers          | 2
| Secretarial Staff            | 1
| **TOTAL**                    | **7**

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**RESEARCH FIELDS**

**Assoc. Prof. K Charlton:** Salt sensitivity and blood pressure in transitional communities; nutrition and successful ageing; nutrition and cognitive functioning; nutritional epidemiology; prevention and management of obesity and other chronic diseases; body composition.

**Mrs M Visser:** Clinical nutrition; nutritional epidemiology; nutrition & HIV/AIDS; nutritional biochemistry.

**Ms I Schloss:** Nutritional status and growth; gastro-enterology; community nutrition.

**Mrs A Meyer:** Public health and nutrition policy; community nutrition; promotion, support and protection of breastfeeding.

**DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:**

Dr. Lucy Malaba, Institute of Food Nutrition and Family Science, University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Mr. Jim Hershey, Director, World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH) programme, St. Louis, USA.

Ms. Cade Fields-Gardner, HIV-specialist dietitian, The Cutting Edge, Illinois, USA.

**RESEARCH OUTPUTS**

**RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES:**


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS:

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS/ABSTRACTS:


THESES AND DISSERTATIONS PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES:

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF A POPULAR NATURE:

CONSULTANCIES AND OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES BASED ON EXPERTISE DEVELOPED IN RESEARCH.

Charlton KE. Member of Working Group for Development of National Food Based Dietary Guidelines.

Charlton KE. Chairperson of Working Group for Development of Dietary Guidelines for Elderly South Africans.

Charlton KE. Member of Working Group for the development of National Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Obesity (Initiative of National Department of Health and South African Society for the Study of Obesity (SASSO)).

Charlton KE. Member of Nutrition Advisory Committee of Nutrition Directorate of Department of Health: Western Cape.

Charlton KE. International Union of Nutritional Sciences’ (IUNS) Committee on Nutrition and ageing: member.

Meyer A. Chairperson of Cape Town Breastfeeding Liaison Group.

Meyer A. Member of Working Group for Development of National Food Based Dietary Guidelines for children aged less than 7 years.

Meyer A. Member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Dietetics in South Africa (ADSA).

Schloss I. Member of Site Development & Multi-disciplinary Committee (UCT).

Visser ME. Member of Semester 1 MBChB curriculum development committee (UCT).

Visser ME. Member of National Advisory panel on the Glycaemic Index (GI).
DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY  
(MRC/UCT/UWC RESEARCH UNIT FOR TRADITIONAL MEDICINES)  
(WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION COLLABORATING CENTRE FOR DRUG POLICY)  

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor Peter I Folb  

CONTACT DETAILS  
Postal Address: Department of Pharmacology  
K45, Old Main Building  
Groote Schuur Hospital  
Observatory, 7925  
South Africa  
Telephone: (021) 406 6286  
Fax: (021) 448 1989  
Email: pfolb@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za  

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE  

Research in the department covers applied and clinical pharmacology and therapeutics for the University of Cape Town teaching hospitals, and the department participates in a number of regional, national, continental (African) and international programmes.  

The World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Drug Policy, based in the department and functioning in conjunction with the School of Pharmacy of the University of the Western Cape, aims to spread information and to develop and promote systems and research that support rational and safe use of essential medicines by health professionals. This includes traditional medicines. Systems for monitoring safety are developed and drug toxicity countrywide is monitored. Collaboration with other developing countries is undertaken for the training of research workers.  

The department conducts a collaborative research programme, in conjunction with the Medical Research Council, into the early development of new antituberculosis combination drugs. New drug assay methods are developed and clinical development of novel antituberculosis drugs is supported by clinical trials in patients and in healthy normal volunteers. In collaboration with the World Health Organisation, novel antimalarial drugs are investigated as part of WHO international research programmes. A focus of the research of the department is to investigate the nature of antimalarial drug resistance.  

Research is undertaken into the discovery of new antimalarial drugs and understanding the mechanisms of malaria parasite resistance to drugs (chloroquine, mefloquine and pyronaridine). Activity is tested in vitro of concentrated extracts of more than 100 plants against approximately 15 strains of Plasmodium falciparum.  

South African Medical Research Council Traditional Medicines Research Unit: The MRC research unit, in conjunction with the University of the Western Cape School of Pharmacy, conducts, inter alia, laboratory research into activities of traditional medicines and their safety, with special reference to antimalarial agents, antivirals, and antituberculosis agents, co-operation with traditional healers and researchers, new drug registration, information and the provision of reference materials. A computerised database is being developed for use by researchers, traditional healers, other health professionals, and the public.  

The pharmacology service laboratory acquired a LC Mass Spectrometer which was commissioned in January 2001. It has already allowed the lab to develop an assay for the new immunosuppressive drug, Sirolimus and we are the only centre in the country providing a monitoring service for this drug. The LCMS will broaden the scope and sensitivity of assays the lab will be able to offer in the future and will also play a prominent role in the departments Traditional Medicine Programme.  

The National Adverse Drug Reaction Event Monitoring Centre monitors based in the department adverse effects of medicines country-wide, and it aims to promote the safe use of medicines. The unit collects reports of apparent harm caused by drugs and vaccines, evaluates them and advises the Medicines Control Council, the national drug regulatory authority.  

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The Medicines Information Centre provides a professional drug information service to all health professionals in southern Africa. It is remains the largest centre of its kind in Africa.

The Centre organises courses and seminars in support of continuing professional development (CPD) in the form of pharmacology-based lectures. During 2001, four weekend seminars were held in Cape Town, one in Port Elizabeth, one in Durban and one in Johannesburg. In approximately 1500 health professionals were provided with this form of CPD.

The Centre answers approximately 20-40 medicine-related queries a day, over 6000 queries a year. This year, 2001, the Centre will answer over 7000 queries from health professionals. The Centre provides a teaching course in drug information to the University of the Western Cape final year pharmacy students. This course is accredited as part of their curriculum. Pharmacy interns from Groote Schuur Hospital, Red Cross Children's Hospital, Tygerberg Hospital and Conradie Hospital are trained for 2-4 weeks at the Centre in the provision of drug information. The Centre provides an internationally recognised training course in Drug Information for the purpose of setting up Drug Information Centres elsewhere. This is an intensive 4-week course held at the Centre and has been attended by one delegate from Seychelles, two from Ghana and two from Tanzania. Three of these delegates were sponsored by the WHO and two by the World Bank.

A CD-ROM version of the fifth edition of the South African Medicines Formulary was produced during 2001. 10 000 copies of the fifth paper edition have been sold nationally, attesting to the wide use of the formulary by health care professionals. A reprint is in progress to provide books for the 2002 student intake in medical and other health care fields. Work has begun on the database design for an integrated system of databases within the division of Pharmacology, and future editions of the SAMF will be produced from this database – print, CD, web, and handheld device versions are planned. The database can also be used to produce other products from subsets of the data. The aim of the project is to encourage safe, rational and cost-effective use of essential medicines, and to provide peer-reviewed, unbiased drug information.

## PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

| Professor | 1 |
| Associate Professor | 1 |
| Senior Lecturers | 2 |
| Lecturers | 4 |
| Research Staff | 22 |
| Technical Support Staff | 8 |
| Administrative and Clerical Staff | 6 |
| TOTAL | 44 |

**HONORARY STAFF**

| Lecturers | 3 |
| Post-Doctoral | 1 |
| Doctoral | 15 |
| Masters | 9 |
| Undergraduate medical students | 530 |
| TOTAL | 560 |

## RESEARCH FIELDS

**PI Folb:** Clinical and experimental pharmacology, scientific basis of drug development, toxicology and drug safety, malaria

**PJ Smith:** Mechanisms of antimalarial drug resistance; pharmacokinetics of anti-TB drugs; isolation of novel drugs from traditional medicines; development of new drug assays

**A Robins:** Psychopharmacology; Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome; Catatonia; Antidepressants; Medical Ethics; Medical History; Evolution of Human Skin Pigmentation

**KI. Barnes:** Malaria: Combination Antimalarial Therapy - Operational and Policy Research; Teaching; evaluation of alternative teaching

**H McIlerson:** tuberculosis drug kinetics in patients; tuberculosis drug formulation quality and bioequivalence.
M Blockman: Rational and cost-effective prescribing of medicines; drug utilisation review; adverse drug reaction monitoring; drug policy and regulation

WE Campbell: Phytochemical studies on indigenous Amaryllidaceae species; structural studies on active compounds isolated from traditional medicinal plants.

G Gabriels: Tuberculosis, pharmacokinetics

A Evans: Malaria, drug assay development

U Mehta: Adverse drug reaction monitoring; pharmacovigilance, vaccines safety, drug Regulation

H Hoppe: Malaria;

P Waako: Investigating antimalarial activity of plants used in the treatment of malaria

Research Outputs

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


BOOKS

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


THESES PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES (Masters and Doctoral)

PhD: Motlalelapula G. Matsabisa: The invitro antimalarial activity of 24D and the chloroquine resistance reversing effects of 3M on plasmodium falciparum

PhD: Natalie Investigation of the phytochemistry and biological activity of isoquinoline alkaloids isolated from the South African medicinal plants Cyrtanthus sanguineus (Lindl.) Walp and Cyrtanthus obliquus (L.f.) Ait (135 pages)


M.Sc: Noluntu Qodi: Invitro Tests for Immunomodulatory Effects of Medicinal Plants used in the treatment of Malaria in South Africa

M.Sc: Galya Reuter: the correlation between raised liver enzyme levels and high concentrations of rifampicin and its metabolites: 25-desacetyl rifampicin and 3-formyl rifampicin.

M.Sc: Jennifer Cockcroft. The Development, implementation and validation of a plasma-based high performance liquid chromatographic assay for isoniazid and N-acetylisoniazid. An acetylator status population study at Brewelskloof Hospital, Worcester. 2001

UNIVERSITY AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS


TECHNICAL REPORTS


The bioavailability and bioequivalence of Rifampicin and Isoniazid as a single dose in a fixed dose combination formulation, Rimactazid 150/75, compared to equivalent doses of single drug reference preparations of the two drugs (2000). Dr. H. McIlerson, Dr. P. Smith, Mr. G. Gabriels, Dr. B. Fourie

Bioavailability study comparing Rifater Combination Dispersible Tablet (Rifampicin 60 mg, Isoniazid 30 mg and Pyrazinamide 150 mg) as a single dose to equivalent doses of Norstan-Isoniazid®, Rozide® and Rifadin® as a single dose, in healthy volunteers. (2000). Dr. H. McIlerson, Dr. P. Smith, Mr. G. Gabriels, Dr. B. Fourie

M. Gomes, I Ribeiro, PI Folb. Report to National drug regulatory authorities of the United States (Food and Drug Administration), United Kingdom (Medicines Control Agency), and Switzerland Inter………………. Office for the Control of Medicines)

Development of artesunate for rectal administration for life-threatening malaria and to work towards bringing artesunate to submission for regulatory approval by the authorities of the United states (Food and Drug Administration), United Kingdom (Medicines Control Agency), and Switzerland Inter…………………… Office for the Control of Medicines)

CONSULTANCIES AND OTHER RESEARCH AND SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Barnes, KI: Co-investigator of International Randomised Controlled Study: “To choose or not choose drugs yourself: the difference in the rationality of prescribing between medical students using a personal formulary and medical students using an existing formulary.” Study sites: Netherlands, Slovakia, India, Indonesia, Russia, Spain, Yemen, South Africa (1998). Sponsor: WHO Drug Action Programme.

Barnes, KI: Member of National Malaria Advisory Group, Department of Health, and of the Sub-committee for Chemo-prophylaxis and Therapy (2000)


Blockman M: Chair: Editorial Expert Committee (2001); sub-committee of the National Essential Drugs List Committee; Department of National Health

Blockman M: WHO consultant to Turkey. Assisted in setting up their national standard treatment guidelines. 2001

Gibbon C: Member: Editorial Expert Committee; Department of Health; edited the publication 'Standard South African Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Drugs List for Hospital Level, 2000 Edition (Published by Department of Health).

Mr G Matsabisa serves on the complementary medicines committee of the Medicines Control Council.

Dr U Mehta and Professor Folb. Department of Pharmacology have been designated as the international training centre on Adverse Events following Immunization as part of the Global Training Network of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Mr SC Ntutela: Member of the Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) Parliamentary Steering Committee, Western Cape representative of IKS Secretariat

Professor PI Folb:
1. **Director:** World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Drug Policy at the University of Cape Town and the University of the Western Cape.

2. **Member:** Steering Committee of Medicins Sans Frontieres initiative for scientific development of novel drugs for neglected diseases in the developing world.

3. **Member:** World Health Organization Strategic Advisory Group of Experts for vaccines policy worldwide (includes vaccine safety, novel vaccine development, worldwide eradication programmes), vaccine policy issues of international importance.

4. **Chair:** World Health Organization task force for research into severe malaria.

5. **Chair:** World Health Organization task force for development of artesunate in severe, life-threatening malaria.

6. **Member:** World Health Organization task force for research into malaria drug resistance and policies.

7. **Chair:** World Health Organization global advisory committee for vaccine safety worldwide.

8. **Scientific member:** World Health Organization Steering Committee for proof of principal research.

   In addition, in 2000 Professor Folb conducted country review visits on behalf of World Health Organization to deal variously with issues of medicines and vaccine safety, new drug development, research capability training and strengthening, and establishment of clinical research centres in several countries. These countries were Poland, Tanzania and Armenia (the latter in vaccine safety training, together with Dr U Mehta, for the countries of the Former Soviet Union).

   In 2000, the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology (DACST) awarded 6.7 million rand to a consortium to conduct research aimed at discovery of novel antimalarial agents from traditional medicinal sources. The Medical Research Council, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, National Botanical Institutes, University of Pretoria and University of Cape Town are the participating members of the consortium. Professor P Folb was designated project leader of the research programme.
DIVISION OF RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

HEAD OF DIVISION – Professor ED Bateman

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: UCT Lung Institute
              PO Box 34560
              Groote Schuur 7937
              Cape Town
Telephone:    (021) 406-6901
Fax:          (021) 406-6902
Email:        ebateman@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za
Webpage:      http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/respiratory/

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

Most of research activity of the Division is based in the UCT Lung Institute, and involves additional researchers attached to the Institute. Major research initiatives include the following: epidemiological studies of respiratory disease in Cape Town with special reference to socio-economic deprivation, implementation of the WHO Adult Lung Health Initiative in Africa (in association with the SA Medical Research Council, the University of the Free State and Rotterdam University), investigation of new methods for assessing small airways dysfunction in asthma, disease management of airways diseases utilising a computerised interactive guideline-based support and diagnostic system, and contract research (both Phase II and Phase III drugs trials) in the following diseases: multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, obstructive pulmonary disease and influenza. In addition, the unit is involved in the Canadian Medical Research Council Lung Volume Reduction Surgery trial, which tests the utility of surgery for patients with advanced emphysema. In occupational medicine, Professor White is involved in collaborative research initiatives with the Safety in Mines Research Advisory Committee (SIMRAC). These include the Health 803 Project concerned with radiological surveillance in the mining industry, medical surveillance of former asbestos exposed workers, and the development and evaluation of guidelines and materials for the technology transfer of X-ray reading skills to medical practitioners in the mining industry.

PERMANENT & LONGTERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH STAFF

| Medical Officers | 2 |
| Nursing study co-ordinators | 1 |
| Admin & clerical staff | 2 |
| TOTAL | 5 |

RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor E.D. Bateman: Disease management, pharmacology, and epidemiology of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; classification and treatment of diffuse parenchymal lung diseases; treatment of tuberculosis.

Associate Professor G.M. Ainslie: Clinical features and treatment of sarcoidosis; treatment of cryptogenic fibrosing alveolitis; cryptogenic organising pneumonia; clinical patterns of asthma; alpha1-antitrypsin deficiency.

Dr R.I. Raine: Airway management in critical care; novel therapies for treatment of ARDS, antimicrobial therapy in candidaemia; analgesia and sedation in critical care; prognostic indicators in critical care; epidemiology and treatment of sleep-disordered breathing in South Africa.
Associate Professor N.W. White: Lung disease in ex-miners; epidemiology of silicosis in gold miners; lung function reference equations; tuberculosis in miners; occupational asthma; radiological classification of pneumoconiosis; effects of air pollution upon the health of children.

Associate Professor P.A. Willcox: Multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis; lung cancer; cystic fibrosis; community-acquired pneumonia.

Dr H Zar: Gastro-oesophageal reflux in asthma; near-fatal and fatal asthma.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES

Bateman ED, Silins V, Bogolubov M. Clinical equivalence of salmeterol/fluticasone propionate in combination (50/100mcg twice daily) when administered via a chlorofluorocarbon-free metered dose inhaler or dry powder inhaler to patients with mild to moderate asthma. Respiratory Medicine 2001: 95:136-146.


Bateman ED. What do we mean by “Asthma Control”? Specialist Medicine 2001;23:715-719.

Bateman ED, Bousquet J, Braunstein GL. Is overall asthma control being achieved? A hypothesis-generating study. European Respiratory Journal 2001; 17:589-595

Bateman ED. Measuring asthma control. Current Opinion in Allergy and Clinical Immunology June 2001; 1:211-216.

Bateman ED. Using clinical measures of disease control to reduce the burden of asthma. PharmacoEconomics 2001;19 Suppl.2; 7-12.


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


ABSTRACTS


Lalloo UJ, Bateman ED, Nell H, O’Brien J, Visser Z. Low dose Symbicort® (budesonide and formoterol in a single inhaler) is more effective than increasing the dose of inhaled corticosteroids in mild asthma. South African Respiratory Journal 2001;7:55.


CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Professor Bateman completed his term of office as president of the South African Thoracic Society. He serves as Executive Director of the UCT Lung Institute. He also served on the Communication and Congress Committee of the American Thoracic Society, and was an invited speaker at the Asthma for Africa Congress in Cape Town, and international meetings in Nice, France and at asthma meetings in Bangkok and Port Douglas, Australia. He delivered lectures and chaired sessions at the European Respiratory Society meeting in Berlin in September and undertook visits to several Canadian universities as visiting lecturer in September. He presented at the South African Thoracic Society Congress in Bloemfontein in July, at the Pulmonology Continuing Medical Education Meeting in June, at the Allergy Society Congress in Durban in October, at a European Respiratory Physicians Congress on “Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease” in Madrid in October, was visiting speaker at the Argentinian Respiratory Society Congress in Buenos Aires in November. He has served as consultant to several companies including Partners-in-Health Care, Boehringer Ingelheim, Astra-Zeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, and Bristol Myers Squibb. Collaborative research is being undertaken with the University of Stellenbosch, the University of the Orange Free State, and the South African Medical Research Council.

Prof Ainslie serves on the Executive Council on the National Asthma Educational Programme and as a member of the Council of the South Thoracic Society. She presented lectures at the following congresses: Asthma for Africa Congress
Dr. Raine is a member of the executive council of Critical Care Society of Southern Africa and chair of the Assembly on Respiratory Physiological and Sleep of the SA Thoracic Society. He convened a workshop on Sleep-Disordered Breathing and co-convened the Critical Care Refresher Course at UCT in December 2000. He presented papers and chaired sessions at congresses of the SA Thoracic Society and Critical Care Society. He also spoke at anaesthetics, physician and critical care refresher courses.

Prof. White is a member of the Council of the South African Thoracic Society, and was invited to take part in the World Health Organisation consultation on the development of a comprehensive approach for the prevention and control of chronic respiratory diseases in Geneva in January. He presented at the Asthma for Africa Congress, the National Association for Clean Air Congress in Cape Town in May, and was an invited lecturer at the Peninsula Technikon Occupational Health Course. He presented at the Fourth South African Continuing Medical Education Congress in June, and serves as secretary of the Oscar Mpetha Foundation Trust. He is on Sabbatical leave until March 2002 on a SIMRAC-funded project, on the development of Guidelines for technology transfer of X-ray reading skills to medical practitioners in the mining industry.

Professor Willcox presented papers at the Congress of the South African Thoracic Society in Bloemfontein in August, a Western Cape Regional Tuberculosis Meeting in July, the World Conference on Lung Health of the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease in Paris in France in November, and at the Joint Congress of the Infectious Diseases and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Societies of Southern Africa in Stellenbosch in December. He is a member of the Scientific Committee of the South African Cystic Fibrosis Society and a member of the Editorial Board of the Malawi Medical Journal.
DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor Asgar Ali Kalla

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DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE
The Division of Rheumatology has several research interests relating to different aspects of the rheumatic diseases. Dr Yusuf Patel left the Division in February 2001, to work in England. Dr Cathy Spargo completed her training as a rheumatologist in January 2001 and has gone into Private Practice. Osteoporosis is an area of interest for many years and there is ongoing collection of longitudinal bone mineral density data in patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). Age-related bone loss at different skeletal sites is being prospectively studied in collaboration with the Department of Nuclear Medicine and the Endocrine Unit. We are busy analysing the results of SPECT scans in SLE patients developing signs and symptoms of neuropsychiatric SLE. This study has a prospective component which relates to follow-up of patients who have had SPECT scans 2-3 years previously. Clinical drug trials are in progress to study the safety and efficacy of the newer non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), in collaboration with the GIT Unit. These COXIBS are being evaluated in patients with RA and osteoarthritis (OA). All of these include collaborative participation with the GIT Unit, where gastropathy is an outcome variable, measured by gastroscopy.

The unit provides in- and outpatient rheumatology services for the entire Western Cape region. Sessions are also carried out at the Heideveld and Khayelitsha Community Health Centres 6 times a year. Training is provided on a continuous basis for medical students, allied health professionals, a senior house officer, and two registrars. Research is largely clinically orientated, but a laboratory-based approach is being used to study the genetics of SLE and the pathogenesis of reactive arthritis. In this regard, collaborative arrangements are in place with the Rheumatic Diseases Hospital in Bath, UK. In addition, there is very significant involvement in clinical drug trials in both rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. Collaborative projects are being planned with Leeds University in the UK, as well as Wits and Nelson Mandela Medical University, under the directorship of Professor Paul Emery. These include Scleroderma lung disease, the response to cyclosporin A in steroid-dependent SLE and Psoriatic arthropathy.

PERMANENT AND LONGTERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS
Professor Asgar A Kalla: Head of Department; Osteoporosis, steroid-induced osteoporosis; disease modification of RA; systemic lupus erythematosus disease activity and characterisation, variety of clinical drug trials in patients with RA and OA.

Dr Sue Jessop: Senior lecturer (Dermatology); clinical activity scores in scleroderma, osteoporosis and hormone replacement therapy in SLE.
Dr Alan Tooke: Senior lecturer (part-time in Rheumatology); early arthritis clinic is conducted together with data collection for prospective analysis.

Dr Jennifer Potts: Senior Registrar; Psoriatic Arthropathy.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

UNPUBLISHED RESEARCH / POLICY DOCUMENTS
AA Kalla – Principal author of guidelines for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Project run by SAMA.
AA Kalla – member of committee for guidelines for the treatment of osteoarthritis.
AA Kalla – member of committee for guidelines on the treatment of Gout.