

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**13 October 2014**

**2015 Intensive Care Foundation Grants fund major research projects**

The Intensive Care Foundation announced more than $212,000 in grants for Australian and New Zealand clinical research projects at the ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne on Saturday, 11 October.

Dr Gillian Hood, Chair of the Intensive Care Foundation, announced the grants for projects which include research into:

* methods to prevent or combat antibiotic-resistant (PDR) infections to which ICU patients requiring mechanical ventilation are particularly vulnerable. These PDR infections have not yet occurred in Australia but do occur in Asia. There is substantial risk that, over time, these infections will spread to Australia and the rest of the world. This ground-breaking project will initiate a collaborative research program between Australian and Asian researchers.
* the role that human genes play in a rare form of sepsis (pseudomonas) that tragically kills previously healthy children. This study will use the most modern genomic technology and will be performed in collaboration with leading genomic research groups.

Hospitals and institutes throughout Australia and New Zealand will be taking part in these research projects. A complete list of projects follows.

Dr Hood said that continued research into intensive care is vital as it can mean the difference between life and death.

"The granting program is the largest single component of the work we do at the Foundation. Since 2000 we have made grants totalling more than $2.8 million available for Australian and New Zealand pilot studies, medical trials and world-class projects. We are really pleased at the quality of the projects and outcomes achieved over the years.”

In any one year more than 165,000 people, including over 10,000 children, are admitted to Intensive Care Units in Australia and New Zealand.

The funds for the research grants are achieved through a combination of public donation and corporate sponsorship.

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**About the Intensive Care Foundation**

The Intensive Care Foundation is dedicated to improving the care of critically ill patients in Australia and New Zealand by raising funds for clinical research projects as well as the education of health professionals working in Intensive Care Units.
The Foundation aims to raise awareness and profile of intensive care throughout the community, highlighting the life-saving work that intensive care doctors, nurses and researchers perform as part of their daily jobs.

**www.intensivecarefoundation.org.au**

**Granted projects for 2015**

* Pharmacokinetic Australasian Collaborative
**Funding: $39,156**Prof. Jeffrey Lipman (University of Queensland)
* TxA levels in the PATCH-TRAUMA trial
**Funding: $38,350**Prof. Michael Reade (University of Queensland)
* Incidence, Risk Factors, Consequences and Treatment of Ventilated Patients with Nosocomial Infection with Pandrug Resistant Organisms in Hospitals in Asia
**Fisher & Paykel Research Grant Funding: $34,000**Dr Steve McGloughlin (Alfred Hospital. VIC)
* The peptic study
**Funding: $25,000**Dr Paul Young (Medical Research Institute of NZ)
* Can individualized blood pressure targets reduce the risk of new onset acute kidney injury among critically ill patients with shock - a pilot before and after feasibility study
**Funding: $22,800**Dr Rakshit Panwar (John Hunter Hospital , NSW)
* Identifying the Genetic Cause of Fatal Pseudomonas
**Funding: $15,062**Dr Luregn Schlapbach (Mater Children’s Hospital, QLD))
* Central venous Access device SeCurement And Dressing Effectiveness: the CASCADE pilot trial
**Funding: $12,240** A/Prof. Marion Mitchell (Princess Alexandra Hospital and
 Griffith University, QLD)
* A Discrete Choice Experiment to evaluate clinician preference regarding resuscitation fluid selection
**Funding: $9,500**Mrs Naomi Hammond (George institute, NSW)
* Haemodynamic Effects of Intravenous Paracetamol in Healthy Volunteers
**Funding:  $7,814**Ms Elizabeth Chiam (Austin Hospital, VIC) **Trainee Project Grants:**
* Gallbladder Motility in Critical Illness
**Funding: $5,000** Dr Mark Plummer (Royal Adelaide Hospital, SA)
* The Endothelial Glycocalyx in Acute Traumatic Coagulopathy
**Funding: $3,400** Dr Elissa Milford (Prince Charles Hospital, QLD)