

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**12 November 2015**

**2015-2016 Intensive Care Foundation Grants fund major research projects**

The Intensive Care Foundation announced almost $250,000 in grants for Australian and New Zealand clinical research projects at the recent ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care Annual Scientific Meeting in Auckland.

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

**Survivors of ICU with diabetes type 2 and the effect of shared care follow up clinics: The SWEET-AS feasibility study**  
ICU survivors frequently have substantial long-term complications and these also occur frequently in diabetic patients who have never been critically ill.

ICU follow-up clinics are expensive and are increasingly being used, but there is currently no evidence of benefit.

The study will evaluate a shared-care intensivist-diabetologist led clinic for ICU survivors with pre-existing diabetes.   
The project outcomes will impact directly on patient quality of life and future resource allocation.

Hospitals and institutes throughout Australia and New Zealand will be taking part in the 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 $3 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.

**2015 Foundation Grants**

Parent initiated response to escalate care of the deteriorating child: the*PARTNER*project **Funding: $19,205             Dr Fenella Gill**

Novel methods of measuring physical function in ICU survivors**Funding: $35,000            Dr Elizabeth Skinner      *Malcolm Fisher ICF Grant***

 Induced hypernatremia - a therapy for acute lung injury?*(HALT study)*   
**Funding: $32,780            Prof. Andrew Bersten    *Fisher & Paykel Research Grant***   A pilot, randomised, unblinded feasibility, safety and biochemical and physiological efficacy study of 20% vs 4% human albumin solution for fluid bolus therapy in critically ill adults **Funding: $18,928            Dr Johan Martensson   *Baxter Healthcare Novice Research Grant***

Levetiracetam pharmacokinetics in critically ill patients with severe traumatic brain injury andsubarachnoid haemorrhage**Funding: $35,000            Mr Menino Osbert Cotta**

Survivors of ICU with diabetes type 2 and the effect of shared care follow up clinics: The SWEET-AS feasibility study**Funding: $35,000              Dr Yasmine Ali Abdelhamid**Targeted temperature management for traumatic brain injury:  a feasibility study of strict normothermia   
**Funding: $24,080               Dr Manoj Saxena         *Knapp Family Research Grant***Randomised controlled feasibility trial of conservative vs usual fluid management in critically ill adults **Funding: $34,000                      A/Prof. David Gattas**

**Trainee Project Grants**Effect of deferoxamine on iron levels and in vitro microbial  growth associated with red blood cell transfusion in a canine model of haemorrhagic shock: A randomised controlled trial.

**Funding: $5,000**                         **Dr Damian Bradley**

Functional outcomes of the elderly (65 years and older) following admission to the Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

**Funding: $5,000                           Dr Kristin Hayre**