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)

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:  SA (21) 406-6200
Fax:  SA (21) 448-6815
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.

STATISTICS 2002

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 2002 was another busy and productive year for members of the Centre. We completed and submitted our application to the Fogarty International Center for an educational grant and we were delighted to receive a generous grant from the US National Institutes of Health, through the Fogarty International Center in association with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the National Institutes of General Medicine. This is a major milestone event for our Centre, for UCT and for South Africa. It is one of the first awards made to a non-US Program Director, in a new era of NIH sponsored capacity building in developing countries. The overall goal of our newly funded programme is to develop sustainable multidisciplinary expertise in international research ethics and bioethics in Southern Africa.

Each year, for four years, 12 developing-country scientists, academics and clinicians serving on Research Ethics Committees (REC) will be funded through the grant to participate in specialized, graduate-level training focused on ethical, social and legal principles guiding responsible conduct of research on vulnerable subjects in the cross-cultural context of medium and low-income countries. Interest and training in research ethics will also be fostered through annual two-day courses to train and update 75 members of research ethics committees (RECs) and through the development of a research ethics network and website.

This programme, taught by a multidisciplinary Faculty with national and international reputations in bioethics, will be unique in Africa and should impact considerably on the ethics of research in Southern Africa, where there has been both exponential increase in the volume of clinical research in developing countries and concern about unethical research, especially in relation to HIV/AIDS.

The grant award of almost R 2 million for the first year (renewable annually for three additional years) will provide total funding (about R8 million) for the four-year programme. Faculty will include staff from the Universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Toronto, Yaounde (Cameroon), and Zimbabwe as well as from the Ethics Institute of South Africa.

Dr Terry Fleischer made a major contribution to developing our application to the Fogarty International Center for an Educational Grant and will have a central role the further development and implementation of our educational programme. He also co-taught with Ms Anne Pope the course he developed last year on Law and Medicine at the UCT Faculty of Law in the winter semester, 2002.

Prof Louis Reynolds of the Red Cross Children’s Hospital was sponsored to attend an intensive course on Research Ethics at Harvard Medical School.

Our consultation service continues to be popular. In addition Prof S Benatar has provided teaching/consultation sessions each at our community hospitals - once a month at each of Victoria, Jooste, Somerset (and until it closed Conradie) Hospitals.

Prof S Benatar was Visiting Professor in Medicine and Public Health Sciences in Toronto for two months where he co-taught a Masters Module (International Research Ethics) with Prof Bernard Dickens of the Toronto University Law Faculty.

He gave several invited presentations at congresses in Canada, the UK, USA and Brazil, as well as several keynote addresses (see below).
STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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HONORARY STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Prof Solly Benatar  
Research Ethics (including International Research Ethics) and Global Bioethics

Prof 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

Dr 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


Benatar S R. We must broaden the scope of research ethics. 2002; http://www.scidev.net/articles2/research/ethics. 1 November 2002.


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF A POPULAR NATURE


Benatar S R, Van Nielerk A, Landman W, Fleischer T. Laying down AIDS gauntlet: there are some things that must be accepted so that HIV/AIDS can be defeated. Sunday Independent, 7 April 2002, p7.


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
Editorial Advisory Board. International Library of Law, Ethics and Medicine
Ethics Advisor to Médecins Sans Frontières,
Ethics Advisor HPTN Network, Family Health International, Washington DC
Chairman S A National Research Ethics Committee

Dr Terry Fleischer

Bioethics Advisor: Drug & Therapeutics Committee (MedScheme)
Member: Research Ethics Committee, UCT Faculty of Health Sciences

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

International

Dr Terry Fleischer gave an invited presentation at the 6th World Congress on Bioethics in Brazil.

Prof David Benatar gave an invited presentation at the 6th World Congress on Bioethics in Brazil.

Prof Solly Benatar gave invited presentations at the following conferences:
  ‘Ethical considerations in resource allocation at the population level’
  ‘Ethical considerations in HIV prevention trials’
  ‘Research ethics in developing countries and the cultural context’
- May 3-4. 1st Annual Global Health Research Conference – University of Toronto.
  ‘The global context of medical research.’ & ‘Research Ethics in developing countries’
  ‘International Sustainable Development: implications for health & health care.’
  ‘Concluding Summary Address’
- 18 June. 5th International Conference on Medical Regulation – Toronto. ‘Professionalism in a globalising world’
- June 22-23. G6 billion Peoples' Counter summit Conference – Calgary
  ‘Health ethics & allocation of resources on a global scale’
- October 12. European Forum for Philosophy. York UK
  ‘Medicine and Justice’,
- October 30- November 3. 6th World Congress on Bioethics - Brasilia
  Presidential Address: 'Bioethics: Power and Injustice,’ & 'Public Health and Human Rights'
  ‘Weighing the benefits and risk of medical research on neglected disease.’

He also gave invited lectures at the University of Bahia in Salvador, Brazil, and at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada and the Keynote Plenary Address (‘Globalization and health: expanding the discourse on ethics’) at the Annual Conference of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (Denver 10-14 November 2002).
CARDIOLOGY
(Cardiac Clinic)

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor P J Commerford

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: The Cardiac Clinic
E25 Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: SA (21) 404 6084
Fax: SA (21) 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.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM STAFF

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STUDENTS

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RESEARCH FIELDS
Professor Patrick J Commerford
Heart Failure, Acute Coronary Syndromes, Epidemiology, Treatment.

Professor RN Scott Millar, Dr AM Okreglicki
Arrhythmias, Pacemakers, Electrophysiology.

Dr BN Levetan
Followup on all patients receiving a local stent design.
RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


Okreglicki AM. Cardiac Wellness. The advice contained has been well-documented but bears constant reinforcement. South African Journal of Continuing Medical Education 2002; 20(8): 503-508.


THESES PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES


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: SA (21) 4066201
Fax: SA (21) 4486815
Email: sress@uctgh1.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. TB basic research evaluates protective immunity of cytotoxic T-cell activity, while clinical collaborative studies are in progress defining immunity after BCG vaccination (ICH, UCT). Collaborative research on the role of monocytes in inducing inflammation and arteriosclerosis is undertaken with the Lipid unit, dept of medicine.

We welcomed Mr. Zahied Isaacs on a research contract appointment as a new member of staff. Marcia Watkins spent a month at the Public Health Research Institute in New Jersey, USA, learning dendritic cell culture technology to implement in the vaccine research.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM STAFF

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**TOTAL 2**

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
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

With our long-term goal of a better-educated doctor, capable of dealing with skin diseases in all branches of health care delivery, education continues to dominate the department's output. While gains had been made in increasing undergraduate dermatology exposure time, this is slowly being eroded. Every effort has been made to adapt our teaching method to maximise the effective use of this reduced teaching time. Formal lectures have been substituted with interactive teaching. The inclusion of dermatologist as examiners for the undergraduate clinical examinations has heightened awareness of the importance of the skin in general medicine. With the move to community based teaching, an innovative approach to increasing dermatology contact has been an active decision to employ medical officers and general practitioners on a sessional basis in our outpatients unit. Dr Christians started his rotation in 2001 and Dr Ann Moore will commence her rotation in 2002. Despite a small staff complement, dermatology continues to be active in the development of the new undergraduate curriculum. Dr Sue Jessop has been appointed as the Convenor, Special Study Modules. Departmental team work has made this additional effort possible.

Doctors employed in the community and many GP’s have expressed a need for dermatology as a subject for continuing professional development. The department participates in various programs, lecturing to healthcare providers by participating in refresher courses all year round. Unfortunately undergraduate commitments have meant that the introduction of a diploma course in dermatology has been postponed for another year. Despite the obvious need for dermatology, our speciality is seriously threatened as higher education investment in dermatology is negligible as shown in a national survey undertaken for the Dermatology Society of South Africa. Dermatology registrar posts have been cut nationally from 32 to 28, no career development opportunities are provided for in the academic sector and departmental heads seldom advance beyond senior specialist level.

The Dermatology Nurse’s Diploma Course continues to train nurses in the diagnosis and management of common skin diseases empowering them with skills to run community based day-care centres. A new centre opening in Ocean View increases local facilities to 5 and is the first to officially incorporate a wound care service. Similar units in Umtata, Gauteng, Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho, Niger and Zimbabwe are providing valuable service data that will be used to update the curriculum and direct health delivery. The course has received wider listing by the International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations and health care workers from throughout Africa, Asia and India, sponsored by The Leprosy Mission (International and South Africa) can now apply. As the foundation of the Rotary Road to Skin Health campaign considerable local and international funding will support clinic development and the training of nurses in under-serviced areas of South Africa over the next 2 years. CPN Pat Kelly co-ordinates the initiative and represents South Africa and Africa on the International Skin-Care Nursing Group, whose aim is to promote the provision of skin care internationally. She is to co-organise a conference on dermatology nursing to be held in Kampala in 2003 with Ugandan colleagues. CPN Nora Christians is the course co-ordinator responsible for design and teaching. Continuing professional development courses for graduates and home site visits to evaluate the course are planned for 2003. We were invited to present a feed back on this initiative at the 81st Annual Congress of the British Association of Dermatology, Cardiff and the 20th World Congress of Dermatology, Paris.

Beach clinics, voluntarily manned by local dermatologists, to publicise the dangers of sunlight with regard to skin cancer, took place over December 2001 and January 2002 in collaboration with the Cancer Association of South Africa. During this time 195 patients were seen and 6 skin cancers referred for management. This community project is organised annually by Dr Cecile Keyzer who is a part-time consultant in the division.

Dr Pat Lawrence continues to work as the only paediatric dermatologist in South Africa. After months of negotiation a special clinic with the basic service facilities necessary for a dermatology outpatient services has been planned for 2003.
This service forms part of the School of Adolescent and Child Health. A specialised hair problem clinic has been introduced and is lead by Dr Laduma Ngwanya and Dr Nonhlanhla Khumalo.

The selfless effort of many visitors to South Africa needs to be formally recognised. Without this additional help our teaching and service commitments would be severely limited. Our registrar complement was boosted by the addition of Dr F Al-Mammari, who will complete her dermatology training in South Africa funded by the United Arab Emirates. Dr Ulrike Raabe continues to provide essential service support as a non-salaried supernumerary registrar. The addition of Dr Karsten Hartmann from Freiburg as a supernumerary registrar for 6 months helped us through a crisis situation when sessional posts on which we rely, remained unfilled as services in the public sector become less attractive primarily due to deteriorating facilities.

The department continues to develop expertise in occupational skin diseases. Research into skin diseases in the seafood processing industry together with the Department of Community Health was completed in 2002. The data is currently being analysed for publication. Dr Asmah Johaar, a visiting consultant from Malaysia, played a pivotal role in the organisation and logistics that made the project feasible. The National Occupational Skin Disease Initiative, a national collaborative project run under the auspices of the South African Society of Occupational Medicine is co-ordinated through the Department. A national workshop on risk assessment was held in Cape Town with Mr Chris Packham as the guest speaker. Consequent to having written a pioneering chapter on skin diseases for a handbook on occupational health practice for the mining industry, the department will spearhead a three-year research project of occupational skin diseases in the South African mines together with the Occupational and Environmental Unit of the University of Cape Town.

A comparative study on atopic eczema in rural, peri-urban and urban communities in South Africa was completed in 2002. This is a collaborative project with Professor Hywel Williams, University of Nottingham, funded by a 3-year Wellcome Grant. One thousand children in urban Langa, rural Transkei, the peri-urban Joe Slovo and Imizamayethu informal settlements have been seen. Preliminary analysis of data confirmed a significant urban– rural prevalence difference. These findings were presented by Ms Tolosana at the EDEN IDEA Congress in Paris. An in depth study of the etiologic factors underlying this discrepancy will be planned once the data has been fully analysed. Additional information on the prevalence of skin diseases in this 3 to 11 year age group cohort demonstrates that >70% of normal children suffer from skin problems in need of care. The information will be used for planning health service delivery as a review of local health facilities confirmed that they were inadequate to meet demands.

Vitiligo remains an active field of research. CPN Elizabeth du Toit’s work on the phenomenon of living with vitiligo has received international recognition following its presentation at the British Dermatology Nurses Group Congress in Edinburgh. It was extensively reviewed and commended in Dispatches, the magazine of the Vitiligo Society of the United Kingdom. Dr Gavin Gottschalk, together with the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology investigate the molecular basis of vitiligo and the low incidence of sun-induced skin cancer in these patients.

An epidemiological study into the causes of the epidemic of itchy skin diseases in informal settlements in the Cape will form the basis of a MRC post intern fellowship awarded to Dr Sean Christians for 2003. This will allow him to continue with his pioneering work in undergraduate teaching at the Khayelitsha Community Centre together with Dr Buchanan Lee.

A study on contact hypersensitivity reactions in atopic eczema children was initiated in 2002 with 30 children investigated so far. This forms part of an international study that includes the United Kingdom and other centres in Africa.

The University of Cape Town, Skin & Hair Centre at the UCT Lung Institute has become established as a complementary service for colleagues in private practice offering specialist referral services and facilities for outpatient management of skin diseases. Patients with management and treatment problems are seen monthly in a combined clinic with colleagues in the private sector. This has provided an important postgraduate teaching resource exposing our registrars to another sector of health care. Surplus funds generated at the Centre are used for financing the department’s running and research activities. Emeritus Professor Norma Saxe, an active honorary lecturer in the department, acts as the manager of the Institute.

STATISTICS 2002
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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 miners, collaborative project with SIMRAC and Occupational and Environmental Unit of the University of Cape Town; Patch testing and atopic eczema, collaborative study Dermatology Departments in UK, Tanzania and South Africa; All aspects of vitiligo especially national epidemiology and cancer risk.

Dr Susan Jessop
Treatments for discoid lupus erythematosus in collaboration with the Departments of Dermatology and Rheumatic Diseases Unit, University of Stellenbosch and evidenced based dermatology in collaboration with the Cochrane Skin Group as a lead editor, Nottingham UK.

Dr Laduma Ngwanya
Dermatopathology. Diseases of the hair and nails.

Dr Patricia Lawrence
Paediatric dermatology and the treatment of atopic eczema.

HONORARY STAFF
Honorary Lecturers: Emeritus Professor Norma Saxe (epidemiology of melanoma), Dr I. Webster, CPN Nora Christians (community dermatology).

REGISTRARS

Dr G Gottschalk
Won the Galderma Fellowship for dermatology research. He spent 3 months in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology with Professor Sue Kidson furthering his studies on the molecular basis of vitiligo. He was awarded the prize for the best clinical research presentation at the Department of Medicine Annual Research Day.

Dr Nonhlanhla Khumalo (5/8 women’s training post)
Evidenced based dermatology, diseases of the hair and nails and blistering disorders.

Dr M Penny (sessional medical officer)
Skin signs of chronic diarrhoea and their relationship to HIV infection.

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.

S. Woods (IT consultant – part-time)
  Development and maintenance of vitiligo and dermatology database.

VISITORS
Prof Hywel Williams, Nottingham University, UK; Mr Chris Packham; EnviroDerm Services, Eversham, UK; Prof David Ferguson, Oxford, UK; Dr John Sippe, Sydney, Australia; Dr Michael Hartmann, Freiburg, Germany.

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

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS
CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Members of the department act as consultants and serve on editorial boards and 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 specialty, is not marginalised during health reforms.

We continue to be dependent on clinical drug trials to sustain and developed dermatology teaching, research and services. While these appear to compete with basic research time, they are generating peer-reviewed publications and international collaborations while providing registrars exposure to good basic research method.
DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY & DIABETIC MEDICINE

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

There continues to be considerable overlap in areas of interest between the two Divisions of Diabetic Medicine and Endocrinology which provide clinical, research and laboratory services to the University of Cape Town Teaching Hospital Group as well as teaching of both undergraduates and postgraduates. During the latter stages of 2001 we lost the services of two longstanding consultants. Dr Brynne Ascott-Evans left to take up a post at Tygerberg Hospital and Dr Steve Soule emigrated to New Zealand. After a long and protracted process permission was received to advertise one of the consultant posts at a junior consultant level and Dr Ian Louis Ross, our Senior Registrar was appointed from October 2002. Professor Michael Sheppard, Head of the Department of Medicine and Endocrinology at Birmingham University spent a 3 month sabbatical as a Clause 18 visitor to the Division of Endocrinology early in 2002. Dr Ross wrote the Subspeciality examination and is now a Certified Endocrinologist. Dr Wayne May was appointed to the Senior Registrar post. The financial constraints placed on Groote Schuur Hospital and thus on our Divisions have increased this year further limiting our capacity to provide optimal care and management for our patients. This limitation includes hopelessly inadequate pharmaceutical budgets, as for example when patients with diabetes, osteoporosis, Paget’s disease of bone and certain pituitary tumours are unable to receive appropriate therapy and a severe staff reduction leading to the lossack of a podiatrist and dedicated dietitian for the busy diabetes service.

The service provided by the Division of Endocrinology includes a small number of inpatient beds, a referral service for inpatients, weekly Thyroid, New Patient and Follow up Endocrine Clinics as well as twice monthly Pituitary Clinics. The Thyroid Clinic staffed by members of the Endocrine service and the Department of Surgery facilitates integrated patient management. The multidisciplinary Pituitary Clinic run in conjunction with the Departments of Neurosurgery and Radiotherapy continues to provide an integrated approach to the management of patients with pituitary tumours.

Undergraduate medical students attend diabetes and endocrine clinics where they receive instructions in diabetes education, dietary management and the medical and psycho-social aspects of diabetes control, screening and treatment of complications. By attending the Endocrine Clinics, students are exposed to a much wider spectrum of endocrine disorders encountered in the community but not seen in the wards.

The Combined Endocrine Laboratory (under the Departments of Medicine, Chemical Pathology and Obstetrics and Gynaecology) at Medical School continues to offer an efficient service in the routine measurements of insulin, gastrin, TSH, prolactin, growth hormone, free T4 and free T3.

The strong links between the Division of Endocrinology and the Department of Sports Science and Dietetics at UCT as well as the Chronic Diseases of Lifestyle Group at the Medical Research Council continues to promote active research in the areas of Diabetes and hypertension health systems research; genetics of diabetes, mechanisms for and prevention of complications of diabetes, the foetal origins of chronic diseases and the glycaemic index of foods.

The Division of Diabetic Medicine runs a variety of diabetes clinics that provide advice on control and management of problem patients, initiate insulin therapy and coordinate the various facilities required in the long-term follow up of patients. The re-development of these clinics into a Diabetes Training Centre is still being pursued against difficult odds in order to develop a tertiary referral point for primary and secondary health services in the community. Specialist Diabetes Education Sisters educate in- and outpatients regarding self-care management of diabetes as well as providing formal instruction to junior and senior nursing staff as part of an in-service training programme. Unfortunately the near
collapse of chronic disorders clinics and non-availability of multiple drug prescriptions at community level and the drastic reduction of medical aid benefits have resulted in a massive inflow of patients mostly inappropriately referred, without much medical historical background available, just for dispensing of long-term medication. This has resulted in our general type 2 clinics – already depleted by the loss of two senior consultants - becoming more of a sorting place rather than a referral centre for appropriate subspecialist consultations. The lack of a dietetic service, a foot clinic for amputation prevention, fair access to end-stage renal support and statin therapy for cardiovascular protection is transforming these clinics into busy non-focused general follow up structures which could just as easily – and more cheaply - take place at a lower level of healthcare.

In contrast the Division has instituted a unique truly tertiary Young Adults’ programme, mainly for type 1 insulin-dependent diabetes, as a natural extension of the already successful Adolescent Transition Care run by the Division of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine. Education in self-management, intensification of metabolic control, psychosocial support, long-term follow up by the same carers, screening of early complications and a 24 hour cell-call facility is offered by the diabetes team led by Dr A Philotheou and supported by Dr M Wormald and our dedicated and experienced senior Specialist Diabetes Sisters. This programme is run totally separate from the usual diabetes clinics which cater on the whole for elderly type 2 patients with complications. It is extensively used, personalised, will soon offer interactive education facilities, on-site HbA1c measurements and drug dispensing, and has proved effective in the prevention of recurrent admissions and in ensuring more regular follow up in young adulthood as the most efficient preventative measure against early diabetes complications.

This year also saw the formal establishment of the UCT Diabetes Clinical Trials Unit, located in GSH Ward G26 annex with Dr Philotheou as Clinical Director. An acclaimed clinical investigator for over 10 years – “zero-rated” audits, international awards for outstanding MQA – Dr Philotheou has succeeded in attracting exciting biotechnology and pharmaceutical research in many areas of diabetes, particularly focusing on early phase head-on comparisons between novel ultra-short and truly basal long-acting insulin analogues, the evaluation of continuous subcutaneous glucose sensor devices and immunomodulation studies for the eventual prevention of type 1 diabetes. The latter form part of an extensive basic programme – almost exclusively in SA clinical research centres - evaluating the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, immune effects of a US biotech-designed altered insulin peptide ligand as potential vaccine for the prevention of type 1 diabetes. Two Phase I studies, in young adult males and in adolescent volunteer subjects with type 1 diabetes, inaugurated the new premises of the UCT Pharmacokinetic Unit at the Lung Institute. The Phase II study on newly diagnosed patients – an attempt to alter cytokine responses and protect C peptide reserve, this time on a world scale -has received FDA and MCC approvals, is proceeding very satisfactorily with Dr Philotheou as national Principal Investigator and her centre leading the world in recruitment rate. The excellence of the work of our Specialist Diabetes Sisters as Study Coordinators in these clinically demanding trials has attracted international commendation.

Prof Bonnici founded the Phumeza Mawonga Diabetes Fund, supported by UCT, Diabetes South Africa and the corporate pharmaceutical sector, to promote diabetes awareness and social upliftment in the African communities of Cape Town. An African senior Diabetes Education Sister is linking with the community and a number of day hospital clinics, exploring and evaluating novel avenues of cultural, religious and social self-expression to support the medical treatment of their chronic diabetes.

**STATISTICS 2002**

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor F Bonnici
Head of Division of Diabetic Medicine:
Genetic and molecular studies in growth hormone disorders; phase II/III insulin analogue studies in type 1 and 2 diabetes; phase I/II pharmacokinetic and immune response studies to an altered peptide ligand in the prevention of type 1 diabetes..

Associate Professor N S Levitt
Head of Division of Endocrinology:
Diabetes and hypertension health systems research; genetics of diabetes, mechanisms for and prevention of complications of diabetes, the foetal origins of chronic diseases and the glycaemic index of foods.

Dr A Philotheou
Clinical Director, Diabetes Clinical Trials Unit
Psychosocial adaptation in youth-onset diabetes; phase II/III head-on comparison of insulin analogue studies; evaluation of a continuous subcutaneous glucose measuring device; phase I PK/PD and immune response studies to an altered insulin peptide ligand; phase II cytokine and C peptide reserve in newly diagnosed type 1 diabetes subjects.

Dr I L Ross
Prevalence of hypoadrenalism in bronchogenic carcinoma

Dr W May
Outcome after radioactive iodine for hyperthyroidism

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREEED ARTICLES


CONSULTANCIES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES BASED ON EXPERTISE IN RESEARCH

Professor F Bonnici: Re-elected National President, Diabetes South Africa; on Consultative Section on Childhood and Adolescent Diabetes and 2003 Nominating Committee 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); Co-Director of UCT Diabetes Clinical Trials Unit.

Associate Professor N S Levitt: Co-Ordinator of Subgroup for Development of National Guidelines for the Management of Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes at hospital level in South Africa (Department of Health.

Dr A Philotheou: Director, UCT Diabetes Clinical Trials Unit; Chairperson, Board of Trustees, CDE Education Foundation; Advisory Board, SADA Diabetes Focus; National Principal Investigator, Phase I and II Diabetes Vaccine Studies.
DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY
(Gastrointestinal Clinic)

HEAD OF DIVISION - Professor Trevor Winter

CONTACT DETAILS
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Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory 7925
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Telephone: SA (21) 404 3040/3062
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Email: winter@curie.uct.ac.za

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.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor Japie Louw - Head of GI Clinic until 30 September 2002
The relationship between gastroesophageal reflux and asthma (with 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/C van Rensburg [TBH]); drug trials - various.

A/Prof 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**


**PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**


**THESES AND DISSERTATIONS PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES**


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


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) The establishment of a Minimum Data Set on ageing and older persons under a World Health Organisation–co-ordinated programme in four African countries. (4) 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. (5) 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. (6) A survey of medical practitioners’ attitudes towards caring for older patients.

STATISTICS 2002

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HONORARY 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, falls, upper gastrointestinal bleeding, needs assessment, dementia drug trials.

**Dr Jane Saunders**
Specialist, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health; Head, Psychogeriatrics 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 PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES

Ferreira M. Ageing in Africa: continuities and discontinuities in growing old in the continent. Ageing International 2002; 27(2) (Spring).


CHAPTER IN BOOK


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF A POPULAR NATURE

EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK (UNPUBLISHED)


Kalula SZ. Invited speaker at a workshop on Ageing and Intellectual Disability, Western Cape Forum for Intellectual Disability.

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND ABSTRACTS


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.
Board Director of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse.
Research Co-ordinator of the World Health Organisation Minimum Data Set on Ageing and Older Persons in Africa project.

Dr S.Z. Kalula
Executive Committee member of the South African Geriatrics Society.
Executive Committee member of the South African Gerontological Association.
Member of the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town.

Dr L. de Villiers
Executive Committee member of the South African Geriatrics Society.
Consultant in the Stroke Unit.

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

DIRECTOR - Associate Professor Michael N Sack

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Medical School
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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 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.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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STUDENTS

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Associate Professor Michael Sack
Molecular regulation of cardiac energy metabolism and its contribution to heart disease

Professor Lionel Opie
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Professor Derek Yellon
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Professor Daneel Dietrich (Visiting Professor, UWC)
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Dr Faadiel Essop
Molecular regulation of cardiac energy metabolism and its contribution to heart disease

Dr Chris McLeod
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Dr Sandrine Lecour
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Dr Jan Minners
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Dr Rob Smith
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Ms Lydia Lacerda
Delineation of cellular and molecular mechanisms promoting cardiac protection

Ms Joy McCarthy
Molecular regulation of cardiac energy metabolism and its contribution to heart disease

Ms Kholiswa Ngumbela
Molecular regulation of cardiac energy metabolism and its contribution to heart disease

Ms Nayna Manga
Molecular regulation of cardiac energy metabolism and its contribution to heart disease

Mr Siyanda Makaula
Molecular regulation of cardiac energy metabolism and its contribution to heart disease

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


Opie LH, Sack MN. Metabolic plasticity and the promotion of cardiac protection in ischemia and ischemic preconditioning. Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology. Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology 2002; 34: 1077-1089.


BOOKS

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


THESIS AND DISSERTATIONS
Suleman N. The role of TNFα in cardiac protection. University of Cape Town, MSc degree, Pp. 1-86.
HYPERTENSION CLINIC

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor Brian Rayner

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: E13, New Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: SA (21) 404-3495
Fax: SA (21) 448-2349
E mail: rayner@curie.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The Division of Hypertension continues to be active in research. 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) 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 low renin hypertension in blacks and coloureds, but not in whites. This research has been expanded to determine if the ENaC mutation and primary aldosteronism are factors in the development of hypertension in pregnancy.

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) Hypertensive retinopathy

v) A double blind randomized dose-response study of losartan in children with hypertension.

vi) A randomised, double blind, 2 arm, parallel group Health Assessment Study of losartan or atenolol in patients with mild to moderate hypertension.

vii) Indapamide SR in elderly patients with isolated systolic hypertension.

viii) A Multi-National, Prospective, Randomised, Double-Blind, Multi-Center, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and safety of a Fixed combination Therapy of Amlodipine and Atorvastatin in the Treatment of concurrent Hypertension and Hyperlipidaemia. A3841003.

STATISTICS 2002

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Prof. Brian Rayner
Clinical research; Primary aldosteronism; Genetics of Hypertension; Low Renin Hypertension; ENaC mutations, Hypertensive retinopathyContract Research

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

Dr. Yvonne Trinder
Clinical Research, Contract Research

Sister Ivy Nteyi
Genetics of hypertension, ACE genotype study

Sister Donette Baines
Contract Research Co-ordinator

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS


Rayner BL. An overview of moxonidine. Invited speaker to the seminar entitled “Insulin resistance and sympathetic overactivity”. Lebanon, 2002

INFECTIONOUS DISEASES UNIT

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor Gary Maartens

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Ward G4
New Groote Schuur Hospital
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Telephone: SA (21) 404.3474
Fax: SA (21) 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.

STATISTICS 2002

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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 REFEREED ARTICLES


BOOKS

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: SA (21) 4066166
Fax: SA (21) 4066396
Email: dmarais@capeheart.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) and to introduce carotid intima-media thickness into the evaluation of atherosclerosis. The main thrust of the laboratory research was to develop diagnostic procedures that included the setting up of gas chromatography for identifying phytosterolaemia and a fluorescent low density lipoprotein assay for the diagnosis of LDL receptor defects. The collaboration on hypobetalipoproteinaemia was with the Clinical Pathology at the University of Western Australia.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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STUDENTS

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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 including ezetimibe; genotype-phenotype interactions in familial hypercholesterolaemia; dyslipoproteinaemia of pregnancy; turnover of lipoproteins; surrogate markers for atherosclerosis in severe dyslipidaemia; renal effects of statins.

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.
JC Firth
Physical signs and genotype-phenotype interactions in familial hypercholesterolaemia; therapy of heterozygous as well as homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia; atherosclerosis in adolescents with familial hypercholesterolaemia; ezetimibe as adjunct to simvastatin in the treatment of severe hypercholesterolaemia.

KH Wolmarans
atherosclerosis in adolescents with familial hypercholesterolaemia; ezetimibe as adjunct to simvastatin in the treatment of severe hypercholesterolaemia.

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

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


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.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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**RESEARCH FIELDS**

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

**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

**Krige JEH**
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 REFEREEED ARTICLES


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Dr MD Pascoe

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Renal Unit
E13 Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: SA (21) 404 3318
Fax: SA (21) 448 2349
Email: pascoe@curie.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

The Division remains actively involved in contract research in the fields of transplantation immunosuppression and renal osteodystrophy. Further studies in the field of immunosuppression have been initiated in the area of transplantation, and a new study is scheduled to start early in the New Year evaluating a new immunosuppressive agent in the treatment of resistant nephrotic syndrome.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

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.

Dr M D Pascoe:

Associate Professor C R Swanepoel.

Dr E Coetzer (Research Fellow)
A new immunosuppressive agent in resistant nephrotic syndrome.
DIVISION OF NEUROLOGY

HEAD OF DIVISION - Associate Professor RW Eastman

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: E8, New Groote Schuur Hospital
               Observatory, 7925
               Cape Town
Telephone:     SA (21) 404 3197/8
Fax:           SA (21) 406 6251
Email:         reastman@uctsh1.uct.ac.za

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

Neurology provides a full general clinical and neurophysiological service to the region. In addition, a number of specialised clinical activities are undertaken which provide both a unique service in the public hospital sector and largely form the focus of our research.

The Stroke Unit, run jointly with the Division of Geriatrics, maintains a comprehensive database of all stroke patients seen. This resource is being used to establish the epidemiology of stroke, the causes of stroke, the outcome of stroke, the socio-economic burden of stroke, and the communication problems resulting from stroke. The acute treatment and rehabilitation protocols being piloted will also serve as models of modern stroke care.

The Myasthenia Gravis Clinic continues to pioneer the use of intensive immunotherapy for this disabling condition, including the development of genotyping to identify patients at risk of adverse drug effects. This work has demonstrably improved the care of patients with this disorder.

The Neuro-genetics Clinic, run jointly with the Department of Human Genetics, provides a diagnostic and counselling service as well as undertaking research into the molecular characterisation of the Spino-Cerebellar Ataxias, and investigating the drug therapy of Huntington's disease. The epilepsy surgery programme continues to use advanced intra-cranial neurophysiological techniques to identify the cerebral source of seizure discharged in patients with uncontrolled seizures to allow surgical resection to be performed.

The division is also active in continuing medical education, community outreach programmes, and in the development of computer-based teaching.

Dr. A. Bryer was promoted to Assoc. Professor, and Dr. E Lee Pan was re-appointed as the Faculty Portfolio Manager for Information Technology.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Assoc Prof RW Eastman
Epilepsy; epilepsy surgery; EMG

Assoc Prof B Kies
Parkinson’s disease; epilepsy; neurotherapeutics; primary care management of common neurological conditions

Assoc Prof A Bryer
Stroke; neuro-genetics; spinocerebellar ataxias

Dr E Lee Pan
Health systems information technology; computer-based medical education

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Prof S Berkovic
Australia

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (ABSTRACTS)


NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

The Nutrition and Dietetics Division 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. Masters’ programmes are offered, by dissertation only.

Ongoing research activities in the Division include the investigation of the impact of potassium and calcium supplementation on blood pressure in black South Africans, and physiological determinants of the blood pressure-diet relationship.

HIV/AIDS has been declared a global emergency by the Word Health Organization. Affordable and effective interventions are urgently required for the management of HIV/AIDS patients in sub-Saharan Africa. Mrs Marianne Visser has co-authored a Cochrane systematic review that assesses the effectiveness of micronutrient interventions in reducing morbidity and mortality in HIV-infected children and adults.

Two nutritionists from the National Food and Nutrition Commission in Zambia are completing research in the areas of maternal and child health. Ms. Siyandi aims to investigate gaps in the knowledge, attitudes and practices of health-care workers and pregnant women in Zambia, in relation to the prevention and treatment of iron deficiency 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 is 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 one district in Zambia.

Staff and students of the Division have been involved in the development and validation of culturally appropriate tools for use in epidemiological research in various sectors of the South African population. An instrument to test the knowledge of primary health-care workers on the role of nutrition, physical activity and smoking in the context of prevention and management of cardiovascular disease has been developed this year. Dietary questionnaires to assess the habitual intake of the following groups are currently being field-tested: young (6-years) black and white children, black and white mothers living in urban areas, populations living in two areas of the Transkei which differ in risk for oesophageal cancer.

A study was undertaken in two provinces to identify sources of nutrition information which are accessed by black women living in urban settings, as well as the perceived credibility thereof. The findings will be useful for the planning of national nutrition education interventions, pending the launch of South Africa’s first food-based dietary guidelines.

Research on nutrition and ageing continues to be a focus area for the Division. In this regard, a case-control study was undertaken in institutionalised older adults in Johannesburg and Cape Town in order to investigate the vitamin C and E status of patients with Alzheimer’s Disease and dementia. A World Health Association-funded project on identifying determinants of poor nutritional status in 283 elderly black South Africans has been completed. The study findings will provide the most comprehensive information on various nutritional, and physical and cognitive function indicators in this age group in Southern Africa, and will be incorporated into the Minimal Data Set Project of the WHO.

A collaborative study with the Department of Health is currently underway to determine the breastfeeding practices of a representative sample of 600 mothers of infants aged 0 – 12 months in the Southern Cape/Karoo region, including the prevalence and duration of exclusive breastfeeding and mixed feeding, and the age of introduction of weaning foods to infants. Knowledge of mothers regarding the benefits of breastfeeding, with regard to the current infant feeding
recommendations will be identified, as well as attitudes of mothers to breastfeeding practices, and the factors which influence mothers’ breastfeeding practices. The survey findings will identify the key breastfeeding education topics which should be used for antenatal education and other breastfeeding support, promotion and protection activities.

In addition to teaching and research activities, the Division has a comprehensive outreach extension service, run under the auspices of the Nestle Nutrition Resources Centre which is housed within the Division. Partnerships have continued with communities in Heideveld, Hout Bay, Woodstock and in George.

**STATISTICS 2002**

**PERMANENT AND LONGTERM CONTRACT STAFF**

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**RESEARCH FIELDS**

**A/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.

**Ms. I. Schloss:**
Clinical nutrition, nutrition in critical care, nutrition and gastrointestinal disease

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

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

**RESEARCH OUTPUTS**

**RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES**

Rose D, Charlton KE. Quantitative indicators from a food expenditure survey can be used to target the food insecure in South Africa. Journal of Nutrition 2002; 132: 3235 – 3242.


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

THESES AND DISSERTATIONS PASSED FOR HIGHER DEGREES
B.Sc. (Med) Hons in Nutrition and Dietetics
4. De Klerk Sandy. A survey of Buchu in the Western Cape and an in vitro analysis of a range of products from two Buchu species.
6. Heggie Kerry-Louise. An investigation of the effect of CLA administration on the satiety of 64 healthy, exercising individuals over a 12 week period, and associated changes in body composition and resting energy expenditure.
7. Klotnick Melanie. An evaluation of the implementation and monitoring of the protein energy malnutrition scheme in two regions of the Western Cape Province.
10. Mongoato Philisiwe. The impact of nutrition knowledge, socio-economic status, self concept, and body shape on eating attitudes in self catering residence students of UCT.
12. Rees Robyn. An investigation of the safety and efficacy in administration of Aqueous Garlic Extract (AGE) for Oropharyngeal Candida spp in children with HIV/AIDS.


14. Talip Wadhi-Ah. Development and validation of screening tool to assess knowledge and practices of health professionals regarding the role of nutrition, physical exercise and smoking in the prevention and management of chronic diseases of lifestyle.

15. Upson Nicola. An investigation of the level of knowledge of the South African population regarding iodine nutrition.

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.
Member of Nutrition Advisory Committee of Nutrition Directorate of Department of Health: Western Cape.
International Union of Nutritional Sciences’ (IUNS) Task Force on Nutrition and Long Term Health: Member.

Meyer A
Member of Cape Town Breastfeeding Liaison Group.
Member of Working Group for Development of National Food Based Dietary Guidelines for children aged less than 7 years.
Member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Dietetics in South Africa (ADSA).
DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY
MRC/UCT/UWC Research Unit for Traditional Medicines
(World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Drug Policy Research)

HEAD OF DIVISION: Professor Peter I Folb, M.D., F.R.C.P.

DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: Division of Pharmacology
University of Cape Town
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 Research, based in the division and functioning in conjunction with the School of Pharmacy of the University of the Western Cape, has the following terms of reference: (i) drug information and promotion of rational drug use; (ii) promotion of and research into drug safety; (iii) traditional medicines research, including discovery and development of novel drugs from Southern African medicinal plants; and (iv) drug development science. Systems for monitoring drug safety have been developed and drug toxicity countrywide is monitored. Collaboration with other developing countries is undertaken for training of research workers and of specialists in drug information and safety. The division of pharmacology serves as the WHO international training centre for monitoring adverse drug events following immunisation; altogether more than 120 senior personnel in drug regulation and directors of national immunisation programmes from more than 50 countries have been trained so far.

The department conducts a collaborative research programme, in conjunction with the Medical Research Council, into the early development of new anti-tuberculosis combination drugs. New drug assay methods are developed and clinical development of novel anti-tuberculosis drugs is supported by clinical trials in patients and in healthy normal volunteers. In a separate research programme supported by an innovation award from the national Department of Science and Technology (DST, formerly DACST), novel anti-malarial drugs from Southern African traditional medicinal plants are investigated to the point of proof of principle. This programme is conducted in conjunction with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the Medical Research Council, the University of Pretoria, and the National Botanical Institute. The division also conducts research into mechanisms of anti-malarial drug resistance of the malaria parasite, with special reference to chloroquine, mefloquine and pyronaridine. Activity has been tested in vitro of concentrated extracts of more than 400 plant extracts against approximately 15 strains of Plasmodium falciparum.

The South African Medical Research Council South African Traditional Medicines Research Unit, run in conjunction with the University of the Western Cape School of Pharmacy, conducts laboratory research into activities of traditional medicines and their safety, with special reference to anti-malarial agents and anti-tuberculosis agents. A computerised database is being developed for use by researchers, traditional healers, other health professionals, and the public.

The National Adverse Drug Event Monitoring Centre, based in the division of pharmacology, falls under the national Department of Health cluster Medicines Regulatory Affairs (NRA) Directorate: Clinical Evaluation and Trials, and staff of the centre serve as secretariat to the Medicines Control Council (MCC). The centre monitors adverse effects reported for all registered drugs, nationally. During 2002 approximately 850 reports were processed. The centre serves as the national contributing centre to the World Health Organization international collaborating centre for adverse drug event monitoring.

The Medicines Information Centre provides a professional drug information service to all health professionals in Southern Africa, in the public and private sectors. The centre is the largest centre of its kind in Africa. The centre
organises courses and seminars in for continuing professional development (CPD) throughout the country and during 2002 approximately 1500 health professionals participated in the programme. The centre deals with approximately 20-40 drug information queries a day, altogether 5981 in 2002. The centre provides a teaching course in drug information to pharmacy students at the University of the Western Cape. 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 drug information. The centre provides an internationally recognised training course in drug information for setting up drug information centres elsewhere in an intensive 4-week programme. In 2002 one delegate attended the course from Uganda, sponsored by the World Health Organization.

The sixth edition of the South African Medicines Formulary is due to be published early in 2003. A pharmacology database has been developed to facilitate production of print and electronic (CD-ROM, web and handheld device) versions of the SAMF and from which storage of references and background material for the SAMF text is drawn. The database, when completed, will form a valuable drug information tool, and subsets of the data will be used to generate other products, print or electronic. An estimated 30 000 health professionals throughout the country, and students in a number of South African schools of medicine and health sciences, as well as many health professionals abroad, make regular use of the SAMF.

The South African traditional medicines database, developed in the division of pharmacology in conjunction with the Medical Research Council, incorporates information gathered from contemporary scientific literature on medicinal plants and their chemistry, pharmacology and toxicology, and data from books, published articles, theses, unpublished reports and databases already available concentrating on African plants. Approximately 13 000 items have been entered to date.

The pharmacology analytical laboratory has modern research and routine assay facilities, including a liquid chromatography mass spectrometer. The laboratory provides a routine analytical service to the University of Cape Town teaching hospitals and altogether to approximately 20 other institutions in the Western Cape region for a range of drugs including the commonly used antibiotics and all the current immunosuppressive drugs, including sirolimus. The laboratory is the only site in South Africa that is able to offer this service. The laboratory serves as the national reference centre for assay of immunosuppressive agents and as one of three WHO international reference centres for laboratory assay of anti-tuberculosis agents. Chemical characterisation of active compounds from extracts of medicinal plants is a key research activity of the laboratories. The laboratory provides assays for about 40 different drugs. The strength of the laboratory lies in its capacity to develop and validate new assays, applicable not only to research but also to industry. Assays for nevirapine and efavirenz have been developed and validated in 2002, and assays for other antiretroviral agents and second-line anti-tuberculosis drugs are currently being developed. The laboratory is at present in the final stages of putting in to practice an ISO 17025 quality system, and applying for accreditation by the South African National Accreditation System. This accreditation as a testing facility will provide the laboratory with international recognition, as well as the capacity to train students for placement in laboratories worldwide.

DEPARTMENTAL STATISTICS 2002

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RESEARCH FIELDS

P.I. Folb
Clinical and experimental pharmacology, scientific basis of drug development, toxicology and drug safety, and malaria

P.J. Smith
Mechanisms of antimalarial drug resistance; pharmacokinetics of anti-tuberculosis drugs; isolation of novel drugs from traditional medicines; development of new drug assays

A. Robins
Psychopharmacology: neuroleptic malignant syndrome; catatonia; antidepressants

K.J.Barnes
Malaria, combination antimalarial therapy – operational and policy research

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

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

G. Gabriels
Tuberculosis, pharmacokinetics

A. Evans
Drug assay development

U. Mehta
Adverse drug reaction monitoring; pharmacovigilance; vaccines safety, drug regulation

H. Hoppe
Malaria - pathogenesis

P. Waako
Investigating anti-malarial activity of plants use in the treatment of malaria

VISITORS

Dr G Staniland. Division Manager: Knowledge Management Division, MRC.
Professor J.A. Louw. Informatics & Knowledge Management Directorate, MRC.
Dr M. Ripandelli. Programme and Administrative Co-ordinator. International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology.
Dr Katrin Lempp, Medecines Sans Frontieres.
Professor Mafauzy Mohamed. Principal: University Sains Malaysia.
Dr Adwoa D. Bentsi-Enchill. Vaccines and Biologicals. World Health Organization.
Professor Dato' Dzulkifli Abdul Razak: Vice-chancellor, Universiti Sains Malaysia.
Associate Professor Sukor Kasim: Director, Centre for Policy Research Universiti Sains Malaysia.
Professor Mohamed Isa Abdul Majid. National Poison centre. Universiti Sains Malaysia.
Mr Datuk Zainal Azman Zainal Abidin High Commissioner of Malaysia. Pretoria.
Li Gaogui Education Commission of Helongjiang Province, China.
Professor Dazhu Zhang: Dean, International College, International Affiliations Harbin Normal University, China.
RESEARCH OUTPUTS

BOOKS


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK


PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES


HIGHER DEGREES AWARDED

Stephanie Delicour BSc (Med) Hons (first class): Thesis Title: Cytochrome P450 Genotyping as an Alternative to Phenotyping for the Determination of Metabolic Status in Clinical Trial. Cape Town 2002 Pages 1-52 Supervisors: J Norman Dr H Hoppe


Asma Hendricks BSc (Med) Hons: Thesis Title: The Development and Validation Of A High performance Liquid Chromatography Assay For Nevirapine In Human Plasma. Cape Town 2002 pages 148 Supervisors Laboratory: Associate Professor P.J. Smith, Mrs J. Norman, G Langdon. Clinical: Dr M. Blockman, Dr K, Cohen

Sandra Meredith BSc (Med) Hons (first Class): Thesis Title: Cloning and Expression of Malaria Genes Involved in Endocytosis. Cape Town November 2002 (Thesis). Pages 1-49 Supervisor: Dr H Hoppe

Clinton Solomon BSc (MED) Hons: Thesis Title: The effect of Human Digestion on Plant Extracts. Cape Town 2002 Pages 1-39 Supervisor Dr J.S Cridland

Marc Blockman BPham, MBChB Master of Medicine in Pharmacology Thesis Title: Chlorproguanil/ Dapsone; A rising dose-tolerance study in healthy human subjects

Nchinya Benedict Bapela (BPLNCH001) BSc (Med) Hons 1999 MSc (Med) in Pharmacology. Thesis Title: In vivo effects of South African traditional medicines against mycobacterial tuberculosis in mice: alone or in combination with antimycobacterial drugs. Supervisors Prof B Ryffel, Prof Pete Smith, Dr Gilbert Matsabisa

Cailean Clarkson BSc (Med) Hons Doctor of Philosophy (in Pharmacology) Thesis Title: Isolation and characterisation of two antiplasmodial diterpenes from Harpagophytum procumbens (Devils Claw) and chemical modification of a related analogue

CONSULTANCIES AND OTHER RESEARCH AND SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Barnes, KI. Member of National Malaria Advisory Group, Department of Health.
Blockman M: Chair: Editorial Expert Committee; (2002); sub-committee of the National Essential Drugs List, Department of National Health.
Blockman M: WHO consultant to Turkey for national standard treatment guidelines. 2002
Folb PI: chair of the WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety.
Folb PI: member of Strategic Advisory Group of Experts of WHO on vaccine policies world-wide.
Folb PI: Member: Steering Committee of Medecins Sans Frontieres initiative for scientific development of novel drugs for neglected diseases in the developing world.
Folb PI: Chair: World Health Organization task force for research into severe malaria.
Folb PI: Chair; World Health Organization task force for development of artesunate in severe, life-threatening malaria.
Folb PI: Scientific member; World Health Organization Steering Committee for proof of principal research.
Mehta U and Folb PI: WHO international training centre on adverse events following immunization as part of the Global Training Network of WHO.
Ntutela SC: Member of the Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) of the Parliamentary Steering Committee; Western Cape Representative of IKS Secretariat.
RESPIRATORY CLINIC

HEAD OF DIVISION – Professor ED Bateman

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: UCT Lung Institute
    PO Box 34560
    Groote Schuur 7937
    Cape Town
Telephone: SA (21) 406-6901
Fax: SA (21) 406-6902
Email: ebateman@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za
Webpage: http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/respiratory/

DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE

Major research activity at the UCT Lung Institute has centred on the epidemiology, and population-based disease management strategies. The Lung Health Survey 2002, performed in collaboration with the Tuberculosis Research Unit of Stellenbosch is nearing completion and will provide important data on the burden of lung disease in the community, and the influence of domestic and environmental factors. The Practical Approach to Lung Health in South Africa (PALSA) project (partnering with the Free State University) comprises three parts. The first is the adaptation of a WHO disease management guideline for local use and the planning of professional detailing for frontline clinicians (nurse practitioners). The second is validation of the approach in a primary care clinic in Cape Town. The final phase is a randomised controlled trial in 40 clinics in the Free State province. Other projects include a survey of adults exposed to a sulphur fire smoke plume 6 years ago (with the University of Michigan), a study of new methods of assessing small airways dysfunction in asthma, and disease management of airways diseases utilising a computerised interactive guideline-based support and diagnostic system. The Lung Drug Research section has undergone further improvements in quality and in operating procedures to ensure that it is fully compliant with international standards for clinical drug trials (Phases II and III). Staff have been involved in more than 20 such trials over the past year, involving patients with the following diseases: pneumonia, multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension, asthma, allergic rhinitis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Work has continued on the Canadian Lung Volume Reduction Surgery trial. In occupational medicine, a project undertaken for the Safety in Mines Research Advisory Committee (SIMRAC) has involved the development of guidelines and materials for the technology transfer of X-ray reading skills to medical practitioners in the mining industry. Medical surveillance of former asbestos exposed workers has continued, and a study of environmental pollution in Cape Town.

STATISTICS 2002

PERMANENT & LONGTERM CONTRACT STAFF

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RESEARCH STAFF

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STUDENTS

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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.

Associate Professor G.M. Ainslie
Natural history and predictors of outcome in sarcoidosis; high resolution CT scanning, and treatment in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis; natural history of hypersensitivity pneumonitis; treatment of pulmonary hypertension; clinical patterns of asthma; asthma education; alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency.

Dr R.J. Raine
Airway management in critical care; exogenous surfactant in the adult respiratory distress syndrome; antimicrobial therapy in candidaemia; 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 M.E. Bateman
Pharmacology of asthma and COPD; smoking cessation programmes.

Dr. D. Carman
Computer-based data collection systems and medical records.

Mrs C. Wilson, Mrs R. Kalam, Mrs M. Ivreva, Mrs W. Lucky, Mrs S. Donaldson
Clinical drug trials

Mrs B Holtzhausen
Small airways disease; lung physiology; clinical drug trials; polysomnography.

Mrs J Etheridge
Clinical lung function and polysomnography

Mrs K Kriek
Lung physiology and trials co-ordination.

Dr D Fisher (Visiting Lecturer)
Lung burden of tuberculosis.

Dr C Kewley
Tuberculosis: social impact; multi-drug resistance, and therapeutics.

Ms E Nolokwe
Occupational Health research

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS


Bateman ED, Frith LF, Ho M. Guideline-based asthma control reduces maximally the impact of asthma upon patient-assessed quality of life. American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine 2002; 165: A44.


Kuna P, Lalloo U, Bateman ED, Buhl R. Budesonide/formoterol in a single inhaler rapidly improves lung function in adult patients with mild or moderate asthma. European Respiratory Journal 2002; 20: 387s.


UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS OF A POPULAR NATURE


CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Professor Bateman is Executive Director of the UCT Lung Institute and Past-President of the SA Thoracic Society. He serves as a member of the Scientific Committee of the Global Initiative for Asthma, is a member of the Communication Committee of the American Thoracic Society. He was an invited speaker at the South African Thoracic Society Congress in Sun City in July, at the Pulmonology Continuing Medical Education Meeting in October, at a European Respiratory Physicians Congress on “New Frontiers in Respiratory Medicine” in Budapest in November, at the Eighth Symposium on Chronic Obstructive Airways Disease, in Barcelona in March, at the Congress of the European
Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology in Naples in June, at the COPD3 Congress in Birmingham in June, and at the Slovenian Respiratory Society Congress in December. He was a contributor at an Asthma Workshop in Seville in February, and Atlanta in May. He delivered lectures and chaired sessions at the European Respiratory Society meeting in Stockholm in September. He delivered lectures to meetings of physicians in Lebanon and in three cities in Saudi Arabia in October, to the Cape Natural History Club, and at the UCT Summer School Course. He served as consultant to several companies including Partners-in-HealthCare, Boehringer Ingelheim, Astra-Zeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, and Bristol Myers Squibb. He is a faculty member of the GlaxoSmithKline Global Respiratory Institute, and has been appointed a member of the Advisory Board of the Chest Research Foundation in Pune, India. He convened and contributed at the SA Thoracic Society Guidelines Meetings on Community Acquired Pneumonia in February and on COPD in July, and chaired an international workshop on Inhalation Devices in Medicine, in Lisbon in June. Collaborative research is being undertaken with the Universities of Stellenbosch, Free State, Rotterdam and Michigan, the South African Medical Research Council, and World Health Organisation Stop TB Programme.

Prof Ainslie is an alternate director of the UCT Lung Institute, and serves on the Executive Council on the National Asthma Educational Programme and Course Convenor for the NRTC(UK)/NAEP Diploma in Asthma Care courses. She is a Council Member of the SA Thoracic Society and secretary of the Asthma, Allergy and Immunology Assembly, serves as examiner for the College of Medicine of SA, is the SA representative for the Alpha-1 Anti-Trypsin Deficiency International Registry. She presented papers at the Congress of the American Thoracic Society in Atlanta in May, at the congress of the World Association of Sarcoidosis and Other Granulomatous Disorders in Stockholm in June, and at the SA Thoracic Society (COPICON) congress at Sun City in July.

Dr Raine is a member of the executive council of Critical Care Society of Southern Africa and chair of Assembly on Respiratory Physiological and Sleep of the SA Thoracic Society. He is co-chair of the Combined Congress of the Critical Care, Thoracic and Allergy Societies of South Africa to be held in Cape Town in 2003. He presented papers and chaired sessions at congresses of SA Thoracic Society and Critical Care Society. He also spoke at Physician and Critical Care Refresher Courses.

Prof White is head of the Occupational Health Clinical Research Unit of the UCT Lung Institute, is a council member of the South African Thoracic Society, and serves on the Occupational Health Assembly, and the Standards of Spirometry Committee. He is chairperson of the Western Cape chapter of SASOM and serves on statutory committees concerned with occupational disease prevention and compensation. During sabbatical leave he continued work on Health 803 (development of a comprehensive, interactive CD-Rom based distance learning tool for radiological occupational lung disease surveillance) and convened a CME programme for practitioners in the mining industry. He presented papers at the Congress of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease in Montreal and at the 33rd Congress for Silica, Silicosis and other diseases in Italy in October, and at the congress of the SA Thoracic Society in July.

Professor Willcox presented papers at the Congress of the South African Thoracic Society in Sun City in July, at the British Thoracic Society Winter meeting 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

**CONTACT DETAILS**
Postal Address: J47 Old Main Building
Groote Schuur Hospital
Observatory, 7925
Cape Town
Telephone: 404-5422 / 404-2131 / 406-6514
Fax: 448-3253
Email: mburger@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

**DEPARTMENTAL PROFILE**
The Division of Rheumatology has several research interests relating to different aspects of the rheumatic diseases. 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. 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. We are also looking at psoriatic arthropathy in collaboration with Leeds University in the UK.

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, and the response to cyclosporin A in steroid-dependent SLE and Psoriatic.

### STATISTICS 2002

**PERMANENT & LONGTERM CONTRACT STAFF**

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**STUDENTS**

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Professor Asgar A Kalla
Head of Department: Osteoporosis, steroid-induced osteoporosis, disease modification of RA, psoriatic arthropathy, COXIB and NSAID gastropathy, Thalidomide treatment in RA.

Dr J Potts
Psoriatic arthropathy.

Dr R Breeds
Thalidomide treatment in rheumatoid arthritis.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

RESEARCH PAPERS AND REFEREED ARTICLES

Kalla AA. Renal vascular resistance in systemic lupus erythematosus with and without renal involvement: Assessment by colour duplex Doppler ultrasound. Clinical Rheumatology


PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Kalla AA. Comparison of Health Assessment Questionnaire and Keitel Function Index in active rheumatoid arthritis. Arthritis Rheum.

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS


UNPUBLISHED RESEARCH / POLICY DOCUMENTS

Kalla AA. Principal author of guidelines for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Project run by SAMA.
Kalla AA. Member of committee for guidelines for the treatment of osteoarthritis.
Kalla AA. Member of committee for guidelines on the treatment of Gout.
Kalla AA. Longitudinal BMD measurements in SLE.

CONSULTANCY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Kalla AA
Heideveld CHC
Khayelitsha CHC
Conradie Hospital