

Centre of Research Excellence for the Study of Naevi



Naevus CRE Update – 20 December 2018

Upcoming CRE Events

- A [Melanoma Screening Summit](#), coordinated by the Australian Skin and Skin Cancer Research Centre (ASSC), will be held on 25th March 2019. This summit aims to discuss the evidence needed to improve the way melanoma is detected and diagnosed in Australia, and determine whether a melanoma screening trial is needed. CRE CI's Prof Monika Janda, Prof Peter Soyer, Prof Adele Green, and Prof Joanne Aitken are members of the organising committee.

CRE News and Progress

- **The 2018 CRE Consumer Forum** was held on Wednesday 19th September and focussed on Melanoma Genomics. This event included presentations from Dr Aideen McInerney-Leo, Dr Mitchell Stark and Dr Erin McMeniman, and summarised the impact of genomics on research and the future treatment and early detection of melanoma. This Forum was well attended by both research study participants and researchers, and an overview ([Forum 4 Reflections](#)) can be found within the [For Consumers page](#) of the CRE website.
- **The 2018 CRE Researcher Forum** was held on Wednesday 19th September at the TRI. This scientific meeting included updates on CRE research along with presentations on melanoma genetics, Vectra data/image validation and a summary of the four CRE consumer forums.
- **Professor Scott Menzies** visited Brisbane from 15th – 19th October 2018 to obtain a more in-depth understanding of the Vectra 3D imaging system and its capabilities. During his visit Scott was involved in classification of Vectra images, attended numerous research discussions and meetings, and held mentoring sessions with students and early career researchers.
- **The CRE Melanoma Myth Buster campaign** was launched on the [CRE Mind Your Moles Facebook Page](#) in late November and can also be accessed through the [For Consumers page](#) on the CRE website. These [Melanoma Myth Buster videos](#) address misconceptions encountered by CRE researchers during consumer forums and research study participant visits, and we would greatly appreciate you sharing them with your networks:
 - Mobile phone apps can detect skin cancer – Prof Monika Janda
 - Young people don't get melanoma – Dr Erin McMeniman
 - Artificial Intelligence will replace skin doctors – Dr Anthony Raphael
 - Skin cancer runs in the family – Dr Aideen McInerney-Leo
 - Melanoma are always black or brown – Dr Jenna Rayner
 - Skin cancer isn't serious. Just cut it off! – Dr Erin McMeniman

- The **Core Study (Mind your Moles Study)** initially recruited 10 pilot participants and 204 study participants (196 completed the baseline visit). Currently, 9 pilot participants and 172 main cohort participants remain in the study. The 18-month follow-up visits are now completed and approximately 40% of participants have completed the 24-month follow-up visit.
- **Program I: Genetics and Epidemiology of Naevi** is focusing on analysis of the imaging and genomic data collected from the 1254 participants. There has been 1 recent publication (Duffy et al, 2018), with 3 papers undergoing review, and 1 paper close to submission.
- **Program II: Consumer Facilitated Naevi Monitoring** utilises participants recruited as part of the CRE Core Study, and officially commenced at the end of September 2018. Due to the limited number of mobile dermatoscopes (*Handyscope*), we will be conducting this study in 2 waves. The first wave of participants are recruited at the 24-month follow-up visit and advised to monitor 2 clinician-identified lesions located on easy-to-see body areas using the loaned *Handyscope* at 2 time-points. The second wave of participants will start in April 2019 at their 30-month follow-up visit. These participants will be asked to monitor 2 clinician-identified lesions on difficult-to-see body areas. The data from Program II will build and compliment the research already conducted within the complementary NHMRC Partnership Project APP1113962 'Redesigning skin cancer early detection and care' (2015-2018).
- **Program III: Molecular and Genetic Properties of Changing Naevi.** This Program includes a case group (advanced melanoma patients) and a control group (with a personal/family history of melanoma). All participants undergo baseline imaging (0 months), with follow-up imaging at 4 months, 8 months and 12 months. All imaging has been completed, with 30 case and 77 control participants attending all 4 imaging sessions. Data analysis is ongoing and numerous research outputs, following on from 2 case reports (Thomas et al, 2017; Laino et al, 2018), are expected in 2019.
- **Recent Grant Successes linked to the CRE**
 - A \$10M [ACRF Australian Centre of Excellence in Melanoma Imaging and Diagnosis \(ACEMID\)](#) Infrastructure grant, led by Prof Peter Soyer and involving CRE CI's Prof Joanne Aitken, Prof Scott Menzies and Prof Monika Janda was recently announced. ACRF ACEMID will establish 15 3D total body imaging systems across Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria, linked by an innovative telemedicine network. This infrastructure will boost Australia's melanoma research capability to address the significant issue and burden that melanoma represents.
 - Prof Monika Janda is CIB on a NHMRC Project Grant led by Dr Catherine Bell 'Can patient-led surveillance detect recurrent or new primary melanoma & reduce need for routinely scheduled follow-up? A Randomised Controlled Trial.' This grant will extend the mobile teledermoscopy research of CRE Program II and the complementary NHMRC Partnership Project APP1113962 'Redesigning skin cancer early detection and care' (2015-2018).