

Healthy Development Adelaide

A Research & Innovation Cluster in South Australia

Childhood Cancer *Past, Present and Future Impact!*

Date: Thursday 23 September 2010
Time: 4.30 - 7.00pm
Venue: State Library of South Australia
Institute Building Lecture Theatre
(corner of Kintore Ave and North Tce)
Registration 4.15pm for 4.30pm start
Food & drink provided after conclusion of talks
All Welcome - Free admission

Seats limited, RSVPs by Friday 17 September
✉ anne.jurisevic@adelaide.edu.au (email preferable)
☎ (08) 8303 8222

SPEAKERS

Ms Kerri Beckmann

Childhood cancer in South Australia: patterns and trends over 3 decades
Senior Research Scientist, Cancer Council SA

Dr Nathan O'Callaghan

Nutrition and chromosome health in kids
Research Scientist & Team Leader (Nutritional Genomics), CSIRO Food and Nutritional Sciences

Ms Anna Boynton

The impact of childhood cancer: psychosocial issues for children and families
Family Service Counsellor, Childhood Cancer Association

Dr Maria Kirby

Improving outcomes in childhood cancer: the role of clinical trials
Paediatric Oncologist, Brookman Ward, Women's & Children's Hospital

CHAIR

A/Professor Claire Roberts

Senior Research Fellow, The Robinson Institute, University of Adelaide

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Speaker Profiles



Ms Kerri Beckmann is a senior epidemiologist from the Cancer Council of South Australia, where she has worked for the past 12 years. Kerri has a science degree and a public health masters degree from Adelaide University.

One of the major aspects of her work at the Cancer Council involves collating, analysing and reporting on cancer statistics for South Australia, drawing from a variety of data sources. In 2008, Kerri undertook a study looking at patterns of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancers across the state, drawing on data collected by the South Australian Cancer Registry over 3 decades. Kerri will be presenting some highlights from this work.



Dr Nathan O'Callaghan is currently working at CSIRO in the Division of Food and Nutritional Sciences in Adelaide. Nathan undertook his PhD studies in Medical Genetics at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, ANU. He joined CSIRO in 2006 as a post-doctoral fellow; and was appointed Research Scientist/Research Team Leader in January 2010.

Our group, Nutritional Genomics, is working on diagnostics and dietary prevention of genome damage in an effort to reduce developmental and degenerative disease within the Australian population. I specifically work on telomere shortening and telomere dysfunction and aim to: 1. develop novel and better techniques for measuring damage to telomeres on chromosomes in accessible human tissue; 2. identify which nutrients and dietary patterns are essential for telomere length maintenance in vivo. This research will contribute to the discovery of biomarkers of health and disease and enhance prospects of indentifying which nutrients, dietary patterns and lifestyle factors are essential for telomere maintenance to maximise health outcomes.



Ms Anna Boynton is a registered Psychologist and member of the Australian Psychology Society (APS). Anna is currently working as a Family Service Counsellor for the Childhood Cancer Association, delivering vital emotional and practical support services to children with cancer and their families.

Anna has completed her studies at the University of Adelaide undertaking a Bachelor Degree in Health Science, and an Honours degree in Public Health. Additionally she completed an Honours degree in Psychology and co-authored an article based on her thesis investigating the *'Emotional and behavioural problems of children referred to a Child Development Unit,'* which featured in the 2008 APS Conference Proceedings. In 2009, Anna graduated from the University of Adelaide completing Masters Psychology (Health), and undertook a research project entitled *'Melanoma and Its Relationship with Solarium Use: Health knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of young women.'* Anna has a special interest in the oncology area and has recently worked as a research assistant on a project examining the experience of related bone marrow donors assessing their support needs and health behaviours.



Dr Maria Kirby is a paediatric oncologist at the Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide, where she coordinates the clinical trials programme. Maria's interests include sarcomas and other solid tumours, safe delivery of cancer care, and the management of the adolescent with cancer.

The clinical trials programme at the Women's and Children's Hospital includes participation in multinational Children's Oncology Group, International Society for Paediatric Oncology and BFM Leukaemia Consortium treatment and tumour biology trials, as well as membership of the Australian Children's Cancer Trials early phase trials consortium and participation in national childhood cancer epidemiology studies.