Healthy Development Adelaide

A Research & Innovation Cluster in South Australia


A recipe for transgenerational health

pregnancy, nutrition and development


Date: Thursday 20 November 2008

Time: 4.30 - 7.00pm

Venue: Union House (Level 4, Eclipse Room)
University of Adelaide
(North Terrace campus)

Registration 4.15pm for 4.30pm start

Food & drink provided after conclusion of talks

All Welcome - Free admission

RSVP by Friday 14 November

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This event supported by

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA

Women's & Children's Health Research Institute Inc.
Research for the future health of our children

SPEAKERS

Dr Allan Rofe
New roles for zinc in pregnancy
Veterinary Services Division, Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science

Dr Paul Anderson
Vitamin D: a pregnancy and early development perspective
Endocrine Bone Research Lab, Hanson Institute

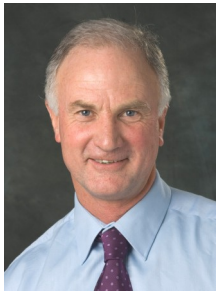
Dr Lisa Smithers
Dietary omega-3s: effects on early development
Child Nutrition Research Centre, a division of Women's and Children's Health Research Institute

A/Professor Gordon Howarth
Probiotics and bowel health throughout development
Discipline of Agricultural and Animal Science, University of Adelaide

CHAIR

A/Professor Claire Roberts
Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Adelaide

Speaker Profiles



Dr Allan Rofe is a Chief Medical Scientist and Manager of the Veterinary Services Division (VSD) of the IMVS / SA Pathology. The VSD supports biomedical research on the RAH / University campuses as well as conducting contract research for national and international clients. With a background in biochemistry/chemical pathology, Allan's research activities have included renal stones, cancer metabolism and the role of metals in health and disease with over 110 publications in these areas. Current work centres on Zn nutrition and the effects of stressors (alcohol, toxins, infection) in early pregnancy on post-natal outcomes. Collaborative projects include one with the University of South Australia (CERAR), at Mawson Lakes investigating innovative solutions and technologies to solve environmental heavy metal contamination problems.

Dr Paul Anderson is a research fellow in the Endocrine Bone Research Lab at the Hanson Institute and is focussed on the roles of vitamin D activity in bone and a variety of target tissues. He is interested in the novel roles for the synthesis of vitamin D in non-classical organs such as the prostate, testis and placenta.

With the support of fellowships from Osteoporosis Australia and the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide and funding from the NHMRC, he is identifying the roles for how vitamin D-deficiency impacts growth and development and in particular regulates the maintenance of a healthy skeleton.

Dr Lisa Smithers is a postdoctoral researcher based at the Child Nutrition Research Centre (CNRC), a division of the Women's and Children's Health Research Institute. With nearly 10 years experience in laboratory research, Lisa moved into clinical trials when she commenced her PhD studies in paediatric nutrition. During her doctoral studies, Lisa established a method for assessing visual acuity of infants, then studied the effects of omega-3 long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acid supplementation on visual development of infants born preterm. Since completing her PhD, Lisa has conducted further research into the visual development of healthy infants born full-term and continues to expand her research program around the effects of omega-3 fats on cognition. Lisa is collaborating with developmental neuroscientists in the USA to bring new techniques for childhood cognitive assessment to Adelaide.

A/Professor Gordon Howarth is a senior research scientist within the Discipline of Agricultural and Animal Science dividing his time between the Roseworthy Campus of the University of Adelaide and the Women's and Children's Hospital. A/Prof Howarth currently supervises four Honours students and seven PhD students, several of whom are undertaking specific studies in cancer research.

A/Prof Howarth's main body of work is a study of novel probiotics and their potential to alleviate intestinal mucositis, an inflammatory condition caused by chemotherapy. In his addition to work with probiotics, A/Prof Howarth is working with emu oil and grape-seed extract as anti-inflammatory treatments, and one of his students is currently investigating the use of traditional Chinese medicines.