



Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health

Director's note

ARCPOH has faced many challenges in the last six months. Unfortunately, we have had to say goodbye to a number of staff due to shortages in funding to support salaries as projects came to an end. In particular we farewelled Dr Archana Pradhan, Dr Wendy Cheung, Dr Kamila Plutzer, Ms Ching Wong, Mr David Harley and Ms Annalisa Agresta.



Prof. Marco Peres



Dr Liana Luzzi

We also farewelled Dr Kelly Jones who took up a position with The University of Melbourne working in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health in the Indigenous Eye Health Unit. We wish everyone all the best with their future endeavours.

I would also like to congratulate three of our PhD students who qualified for their award. Congratulations to Dr Sree Vidya Krishna Rao, Dr Meghashyam Bhat and Dr Kostas Kapellas. Vidya also received the Dean's Commendation for Doctoral Thesis Excellence. Well done to our students on their achievements and we wish them well with their plans post-PhD.

I am also happy to announce that Associate Professor David Brennan's application for promotion to Level E (Professor) has been successful, effective 1 January 2015. We congratulate David on this success.

Despite the challenges of our funding environment, ARCPOH has had a productive six months. Publication output increased with ARCPOH staff and students contributing to half of the School of Dentistry's total publications. ARCPOH staff have also been busily preparing applications for upcoming NHMRC funding rounds. A total of 10 Project Grants and 2 Centres of Research Excellence (CRE) applications are being prepared for submission. Applications for these funding schemes close 18 March 2015.

We would also like to acknowledge and congratulate Professor Kaye Roberts-Thomson, Interim Dean of the School of Dentistry, for the role she played in The University of Adelaide being awarded the State Government's contract to provide its public dental service for the next 30 years. As Professor Warren Bebbington stated, this outcome confirms the State Government values our School of Dentistry, one of the two highest ranked in Australia, and reinforces our position as a national leader in dental education and research.

ARCPOH Executive Committee

Professor Marco Peres (Director)
Dr Liana Luzzi (Deputy Director)
Associate Professor Jason Armfield
Associate Professor David Brennan
Associate Professor Loc Do
Associate Professor Lisa Jamieson
Dr Ratilal Lalloo
Associate Professor Karen Peres

In this issue

| | |
|---|-----------|
| International Indigenous Oral Health Conference | Page 2 |
| New PhD student | Page 2 |
| Farewell Lorna Lucas | Page 3 |
| Visiting researchers | Page 3 |
| Staff achievements | Page 4 |
| Publications | Pages 4-7 |

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International Indigenous Oral Health Conference

The Indigenous Oral Health Unit (IOHU) hosted the International Indigenous Oral Health Conference in Adelaide from 27–29 August. It was the first time in the world a conference specifically for Indigenous Oral Health at an international level had been organised. Key sponsorship was from Colgate Palmolive, the Faculty of Health Sciences (University of Adelaide), the South Australian Dental Service and the Australian Dental Association. Keynote speakers included Professor Kamilla Venner from the University of Albuquerque in New Mexico and Professor Terry Batliner from the University of Colorado in Denver.

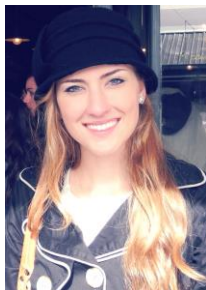
There was a strong Aboriginal cultural program which included a welcome to country, smoking ceremony and didgeridoo performance, Indigenous art work on display, Indigenous music performances during the breaks and conference dinner, and videos from Indigenous oral health projects and Indigenous kindergartens during the breaks. There were approximately 92 attendees, including delegates from New Zealand, the United States, Canada, Brazil and Sri Lanka. Approximately 35 delegates were Indigenous. The presentations were of a high scientific standard, with select presenters invited to publish their work in a special issue of the *Journal of Health Care for Poor and Underserved*.

The conference provided an opportunity for health professionals, community representatives, service providers and policy makers from around the world to discuss Indigenous oral health issues. The sessions were centred around the issues of culturally-appropriate oral health policies and service provision, access to services, prevention and treatment, research and monitoring, the labour force, and advocacy.



New PhD student

Dandara Haag



Dandara Haag graduated in Dentistry in 2013 at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (2009–2013) in Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. During her Bachelor Degree, Dandara was involved with the following research activities: Initiation to Research: a project developed by the university for undergraduate students willing to take part in research; a scholarship from the National Program for Undergraduate Research Scholarship (PIBIC/CNPq 2011-2013).

During this time two important projects were developed. In the first year Dandara was involved in a Cohort Study titled EpiFloripa (<http://www.epifloripa.ufsc.br/>) and developed the study "Xerostomia and Common Mental Disorders in adults: a population-based study" that was presented at the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) meeting in Seattle 2013.

Dandara obtained the Diploma of Merit for achieving the best Grade Point Average for the Dentistry Program and also the Diploma of best student in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Traumatology of the Federal University of Santa Catarina.

In 2014 she obtained a PhD scholarship from the Brazilian program for overseas scholarships named Science without Borders. The aim of her research at ARCPOH is to study the impact of oral health on quality of life in adults. Dandara's research areas of interest include Public Health, Epidemiology and Quality of Life.

Farewell to long serving staff member

Lorna Lucas



Mrs Lorna Lucas has retired from ARCPOH and the University of Adelaide after accepting a Voluntary Separation Package (VSP) from the Faculty of Health Sciences. Her last day at ARCPOH was 30 September 2014. Lorna began her career at The University of Adelaide in 1973 as an Office Assistant (shorthand/typist) in the Office of the Registrar (Staff Unit). She then went on to work in a number of University departments (Zoology, Geology and Psychiatry) and in University Administration in HR (formerly Personnel Services) and the Office of the Registrar, and Office of the Vice Chancellor. Lorna joined Dentistry in 1992 as an Administrative Officer. More recently, she has been responsible for coordinating ARCPOH's research publications and providing administrative support to ARCPOH's Executive Committee and the ARCPOH Expert Advisory Committee. After 22 years of service to ARCPOH (and nearly 40 years in total at the University), Lorna's contributions will be greatly missed. We wish Lorna much success for her future.

Visiting Researchers

Gustavo Nascimento

Gustavo Nascimento (PhD Candidate, Pelotas Federal University), is a visiting researcher to ARCPOH. Gustavo is visiting Adelaide under the Science Without Borders program from the Brazilian Government and will be working with Professor Marco Peres, Associate Professor Karen Peres, Associate Professor Loc Do, Mr Kostas Kapellas and Professor Mark Bartold. Gustavo has been involved in three different activities:

1. A systematic review with meta-analysis focusing on the effects of changes in body composition on the incidence of periodontal disease (manuscript in final stage). Collaborators of this work are: M Peres, K Peres and L Do (ARCPOH).
2. An investigation looking at the impact of changes in body composition on periodontal outcomes in a middle adulthood cohort from Brazil. Data for this investigation originated from the EpiFloripa study (Brazil). Specifically, looking at causal mechanisms involved in the relationship between changes in body composition (body fat and central fata) and periodontal outcomes (clinical attachment loss and bleeding on probing). ARCPOH staff involved in this study include: M Peres, K Peres and G Meija.
3. An analytical study exploring the relationship between life-course body composition and periodontal disease in adulthood. Data in this study are originated from the 1982 Pelotas birth cohort (Brazil). We have three specific aims with this study: 1) to test the association between life course body composition and periodontal disease in adulthood; 2) to test if life-course epidemiology could explain this relationship, evidencing which life-course theory would be more adequate for it; 3) to investigate causal mechanisms behind this association. ARCPOH staff involved in this study include: M Peres, K Peres and L Do.

Fábio Leite

Fábio Leite (Adjunct Professor, Federal University of Pelotas) is a visiting researcher to ARCPOH. Fábio is having a sabbatical year at Adelaide under the Science Without Borders program from the Brazilian Government and will be working with Professor Marco Peres, Associate Professor Karen Peres, Associate Professor Loc Do and Professor Mark Bartold. Fábio has been involved in two different activities:

1. An analytical study to validate the signs of periodontal diseases at age 24 as precursors of periodontitis at age 31 in a cohort of young adults from Brazil. Data for this investigation originated from the 1982 Pelotas birth cohort (Brazil). We aim to evaluate whether early signs of periodontal disease can be used to determine periodontitis development in a later stage of life. ARCPOH staff involved in this study include: M Peres, K Peres and L Do.
2. An investigation looking at the impact of periodontal disease exposures on carotid intima-media thickness (cIMT) in a cohort of young adults from Brazil. Data for this investigation originated from the 1982 Pelotas birth cohort (Brazil). We have two specific aims with this study: 1) to test the association between periodontal disease experience and the increase in cIMT in adulthood; 2) to investigate causal mechanisms behind this association. ARCPOH staff involved in this study include: M Peres, K Peres and L Do.

Staff achievements

Awards

- > Mr Madhan Balasubramanian was awarded the best presentation (PhD category) in the Dental School Research Day, Friday 11 July, and received a \$500 cash prize for his efforts. The title of his presentation was 'Characteristics and practice profiles of migrant dentist groups in Australia: implications for dental workforce policy and planning.'
- > Associate Professor Jason Armfield was awarded The IADR ANZ Division Award in Preventive and Community Dentistry - To encourage an early stage researcher made to reward excellence in the field of Preventive and Community Dentistry.

Successful grants

- > Loc Do, John Spencer, Diep Ha and Ching Wong have received an ADRF Community Oral Health Award for their project: 'Explaining the links between mother's and child's oral health – prospective cohort study'.
- > Dr Jane Harford has been awarded a 2015 Barbara Kidman Women's Fellowship.
- > Haiping Tan was awarded an ACFF Community Grant for her project 'Building a caries-free community for the elderly'.

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ARCPOH published papers 2014

Book

Do L and Spencer AJ (eds) (2014). The beginning of change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/research-reports/reports/oral-health/default.asp>

Book Chapters

Bonecker M, Pordeus IA, Aida J, Peres MA. Epidemiology of oral problems in children and adolescents. In: Sheiham A, Moises SJ, Watt RG, Bonecker (editors). Promoting the Oral health of children and adolescents. Theory & Practice. 2nd ed. Quintessence editor LTDA2014; pp 47–68.

Spencer AJ, Roberts-Thomson K and Do L (2014). Executive Summary. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. ix–xvi.

Spencer AJ (2014). Chapter 1: Introduction. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 1–4.

Do L, Ellershaw A, Roberts-Thomson K, Beckwith K, Mejia G and Johnston Z (2014). Chapter 2: Survey methods. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 5–20.

Mejia G, Ellershaw A, Ha D and Koster C (2014). Chapter 3: Study sample characteristics. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 21–42.

Ha D, Roberts-Thomson K and Do L (2014). Chapter 4: Oral health status. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 43–126.

Beckwith K, Koster C and Ha D (2014). Chapter 5: Use of dental services. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 127–161.

Armfield J and Beckwith K (2014). Chapter 6: Oral health behaviours. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 163–188.

Do L, Ha D, Spencer AJ, Armfield J and Roberts-Thomson K (2014). Chapter 7: Trends in child oral health in Queensland. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 189–196.

Spencer AJ, Do L, Roberts-Thomson K, Armfield J, Thomas R and Stute B (2014). Chapter 8: Interpretation of findings. In: Do LG and Spencer AJ (Editors). The Beginning of Change: Queensland Child Oral Health Survey 2010–2012. Pp. 197–210.

Data Watch

- ARCPOH, Ellershaw AE (2014). Dental attendance patterns of Australian adults. *Aust Dent J (Data Watch)* 59(1):129–34.
- ARCPOH, Luzzi L and Harford J (2014). Financial burden of dental care among Australian children. *Aust Dent J (Data Watch)* 59(2):268–72.
- ARCPOH, Ha D (2014). Oral health of Australian Indigenous children compared to non Indigenous children enrolled in school dental services. *Aust Dent J (Data Watch)* 59(3):395–400.

Journal Articles

- Amarasena N, Kapellas K, Skilton M, Maple-Brown L, Brown A, Bartold PM, O’Dea K, Celermajer D, Slade GD and Jamieson LM (2014). Oral health behaviours and perceptions reported by Indigenous Australians living in Darwin, Northern Territory. *Community Dental Health* 31(1):57–61.
- Armfield JM, Enkling NE, Wolf CA and Ramseier CA (2014). Dental fear and satisfaction with dental services in Switzerland. *J Public Health Dent* 76:57–63.
- Armfield JM, Mohan H, Luzzi L and Chrisopoulos S (2014). Dental anxiety screening practices and training needs of Australian dentists. *Aust Dent J* 59(4):464–472. doi: 10.1111/adj.12211.
- Arora A, Lam AS, Karami Z, Do LG, Harris MF (2014). How readable are Australian paediatric oral health education materials? *BMC Oral Health*. Sep 2;14:111. doi: 10.1186/1472-6831-14-111.
- Balasubramanian M, Brennan DS, Spencer AJ and Short SD (2014). The "global interconnectedness" of dentist migration: a qualitative study on the life-stories of international dental graduates into Australia. *Health Policy and Planning (Early online 10 May 2014)* doi:10.1093/heapol/czu032).
- Barnett T and Hoang H, Stuart J, Crocombe LA and Bell ERC (2014). Utilisation of oral health services provided by non-dental health practitioners in developed countries: a review of the literature, *Community Dental Health* 31, 224–233.
- Bell E, Crocombe L, Campbell S, Goldberg L, Seidel B (2014) Understanding the research-policy divide for oral health inequality. *Health Care Policy* 10(2): 64–78.
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- Boing AF, Bastos JL, Peres KG, Antunes JL, Peres MA (2014). Social determinants of health and dental caries in Brazil: a systematic review of the literature between 1999 and 2010. *Rev Bras Epidemiol (online)* 17 (Supplement 2): 102–115.
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- Brennan DS and Spencer AJ (2014). Childhood oral health and SES predictors of caries in 30-year-olds. *Caries Res* 48:237–43.
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- Brennan DS and Spencer AJ (2014). Health-related quality of life and income-related social mobility in young adults. *Health Qual Life Outcomes* 12:52.
- Broughton JR, Person M, Maipi JTH, Cooper-Te Koi R, Smith-Wilkinson A, Tiakiwai SJ, Kilgour J, Berryman K, Morgaine KC, Jamieson LM, Lawrence HP and Thomson WM. Ukaipo niho: the place of nurturing for oral health. *NZ Dent J* 110(1):18–23.
- Conceição MBM, Boing AF and Peres KG (2014). Time trends in prostate cancer mortality according to major geographic regions of Brazil: an analysis of three decades. *Cad Saude Pública* 30(3):559–66.
- Constante HM, Souza ML, Bastos JL and Peres MA (2014). Trends in dental caries among Brazilian schoolchildren: 40 years of monitoring (1971–2011). *Int Dent J* 64(4):181–6.
- Crego A, Carrillo-Diaz M, Armfield JM and Romero M (2014). From public mental health to community oral health: the impact of dental anxiety and fear on dental status. *Frontiers in Public Health* 2(16):1–4.

- Crocombe LA (2014). Rural dental health care and the workforce challenges. *Medical Journal of Australia*. 2014; 201(11): 644–645.
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- Crocombe LA, Bell E and Barnett T (2014). Grazing: Is it time for an advanced rural dentist? *Aust J Rural Health* 22:86.
- Demarco FF, Peres KG and Peres MA (2014). Life course epidemiology and its implication for oral health. *Braz Oral Res* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/S1806-83242014.50000006> (editorial).
- Do LG, Spencer AJ, Dost F and Farah C (2014). Oral mucosal lesions: findings from the Australian National Survey of Adult Oral Health. *Aust Dent J* 59(1):114–20.
- Do LG, Scott JA, Thomson WM, Stamm JW, Rugg-Gunn AJ, Levy SM, Wong C, Devenish G, Ha DH and Spencer AJ. Common risk factor approaches to address socioeconomic inequality in the oral health of preschool children – a prospective cohort study. *BMC Public Health* 2014, 14:429.
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