

2018 AusACPDM Mentoring Program Mentors

Mrs Christiana Barker

BHSc Physiotherapy

Auckland, New Zealand

I graduated as a Physiotherapist in 2005 from Auckland University of Technology. I have specialised in Paediatric Physiotherapy for the past 10 years, working for the Child Rehabilitation Service which is a national paediatric rehabilitation centre based in Auckland, NZ. My role includes assessment and management of children with Cerebral Palsy and other developmental conditions within Rehabilitation clinics, Botulinum Toxin-A Clinics, Orthopaedic Clinics, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. A large part of my current role is Clinical Gait Analysis. Since February 2015 I have been working 2 days a week for the Starship Clinical Gait Analysis Service, responsible for 3D gait analysis data collection and interpretation.



Dr Katherine Benfer

Postdoctoral fellow, Paediatric Speech Pathologist

Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Dr Kath Benfer is a Post-Doctoral Fellow with the Queensland Cerebral Palsy and Rehabilitation Research Centre, The University of Queensland. Her Post-Doctoral work focuses on community-based early detection and intervention for infants at high risk of cerebral palsy in low-resource countries (India and Bangladesh). She was awarded the prestigious Endeavour Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship through the Australian Commonwealth Government to conduct the study. Kath's PhD explored oropharyngeal dysphagia, gross motor function, growth and nutrition in preschool children with cerebral palsy, in both Australia and Bangladesh. Her work arising from her doctoral studies has been published in 17 peer-reviewed publications and presented widely at international conferences. Dr Benfer has over 12 years of experience as a speech pathologist within paediatric disability, with community-based child and family support services. Kath also has an interest in cross-cultural issues in child health, having worked in Bangladesh for over 2 years both as an AusAid volunteer teaching on the country's first Bachelor of Speech Therapy degree, as well as conducting research in this context. She has completed her Master of Public Health at La Trobe University in Melbourne within the research and international health streams.



Professor Roslyn N Boyd

PhD, MSc (PT), BAppSc (PT), BSc (Anatomy), Pgrad (Biomech)

Current Fellowships: NHMRC Senior Research Fellowship (2016-2020)

Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Professor of Cerebral Palsy and Rehabilitation Research,
Queensland Paediatric Rehabilitation Service, Lady Cilento Children's Hospital.
Scientific Director, Queensland Cerebral Palsy and Rehabilitation Research,
Centre for Children's Health Research, Faculty of Medicine,
The University of Queensland.



Professor Boyd is an NHMRC Research fellow, leads an NHMRC CRE and is Scientific Director of the QCPRRC, an internationally recognised team of researchers conducting clinical trials of novel interventions geared to optimising neuroplasticity (17 RCT's), early detection of cerebral palsy, longitudinal comprehensive outcomes linked to brain structure and function. She leads a team of 38 researchers, including 4 NHMRC post docs, and has 12 current PhDs. She has been an invited participant for 3 international summits on Management of CP in high and low resource countries (2013); Early Detection and Early Intervention (2014, 2015) and Management of Neonatal Stroke (2016). She has received >\$37M in grants including 14 NHMRC, 1 ARC, 2 NIH. She and her research team have been awarded the most prestigious international prize for CP Research the Gayle Arnold Award on 3 occasions (2010, 2011 and 2014). Dr Boyd graduated as a physiotherapist (BAppSc 1981) from University of Sydney and completed a Postgrad Dip in Biomechanics at the University of Strathclyde (Glasgow 1997), a MSc in Physiotherapy at the University of East London (2001) followed by a PhD in Neuroscience at LaTrobe University (2004). Prof Boyd has >250 peer reviewed publications over her career, with 127 new publications in the last five years (2011-2016). H index=35; (Researcher ID: A-4498-2011).

Honours and Awards

Leader of the year award, 2017, Faculty of Medicine.

Commendation for the Premier's Award for Medical Research (Victoria), June 2004.

QLD Smart State Fellowship July 2007

Gayle Arnold Award for best paper at the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy & Developmental Medicine, in 2011, 2010 and 2014.

Ms Andrea Butler

Physiotherapist

New Plymouth, Taranaki, New Zealand

My name is Andrea Butler. I completed my Physiotherapy Education at Auckland University of Technology in 1995. On graduating I became a rotational Physiotherapist at Taranaki Base Hospital in New Plymouth. I travelled to the UK and worked predominantly in Paediatrics, including a month working in an orphanage in Romania. On returning to NZ in June 1999 I took up the position of Visiting Paediatric Physiotherapist at the Child and Adolescent Centre in New Plymouth, until I had my first child in March 2002. In February 2003 I began work as a Physiotherapist for Ministry of Education in Taranaki, and have continued to work there since then, with my job growing from a 0.2 FTE to now 0.7 (i.e. approx. 29 hours a week). My job is centred on children with disabilities in the school environment, assisting them to be as included in the school curriculum as possible.

I look forward to meeting you ☺



Ms Therese Everton

Physiotherapist

Central Coast, NSW, Australia

My name is Therese Everton and I am a physiotherapist currently working for the Cerebral Palsy Alliance at Tuggerah on the central coast of new South Wales, Australia. I started work in Birmingham England where I was introduced to the model of multi- disciplinary teamwork to improve the skills and opportunities of all people with a disability, regardless of their severity.

I moved with my family to Australia in 1990 and have worked in a variety of settings with children and adults with a disability.

I love the variety and complexity of working with families to improve the participation and engagement of their children in all the challenges life has to offer.

I particularly enjoy working with infants and younger children and people with profound disabilities.



Ms Prue Golland

Physiotherapist, MPH (Distinction), B.App.Sc. (Physiotherapy)

Sydney, NSW, Australia

Prue is the Senior Clinical Consultant at Cerebral Palsy Alliance. She is responsible for leading the professional practice framework in physiotherapy at CPA, and providing clinical and operational support. She specialises in the management of cerebral palsy and neurological disability and her clinical expertise is in motor learning-based approaches for motor skill development in children with CP. In 2015 Prue was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to investigate intensive evidence based interventions for maximising gross motor outcomes in children with cerebral palsy. Prue has extensive experience supporting children in both metropolitan and rural settings in Australia and has provided consultancy, education and training to not-for-profit and community projects in Tanzania, Kenya, China and Vietnam.



Dr Chris Ingall

Paediatrician

Lismore, NSW, Australia

I have been in General Paediatric practice in Lismore, a regional town near Byron Bay, for 30 odd years. I became interested in injecting botulinum toxin about fourteen years ago, and with the help of Adam Scheinberg, who taught me, have since then run an injection service locally for children with cerebral palsy, with an excellent physio (Adrienne Kniha) and OT (Anna Rickard). The satisfaction of being able to run a fairly comprehensive service, linked with the tertiary sites, has been enormous! If I can offer any assistance to a younger health clinician in any way, count me in.



Ms Megan Kentish

Senior physiotherapist

Brisbane, QLD

I am a senior physiotherapist and the program director for the Queensland Paediatric Rehabilitation Service. This is a multidisciplinary service offering management for children with acquired brain injury, spinal cord injury and disease, limb deficiency and cerebral palsy. I have over 20 years' experience in paediatric rehabilitation with special interest in service development for children with Rehabilitation needs, outreach services and tertiary health programs for children with cerebral palsy. Publications and research areas include Hip Surveillance in CP, physiotherapy and rehab models of service delivery, intrathecal baclofen and botulinum toxin.

I am also a keen traveller and walker – this is me trekking in Bhutan



Dr Gulam Khandaker

MBBS, MPH, DCH, PhD, FAFPHM

Rockhampton, QLD, Australia

Dr Khandaker is a Public Health physician and an expert on infectious diseases and childhood disability in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). He is a Fellow of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Royal Australasian College of Physicians. Dr Khandaker is one of the lead investigators of the Bangladesh Cerebral Palsy Register; the first population based surveillance of children with CP in a LMIC. His research focuses on preventable causes of childhood disability, gaining better understanding of the causal pathways, testing innovative community-based interventions for prevention, early diagnosis and intervention for CP in LMICs.

He is currently working as the Director of Public Health for Central Queensland. He is also the Co-Director of Asian Institute of Disability and Development (www.disabilityasia.org) and Honorary Executive Director of CSF Global (www.csf-global.org); an international NGO working for children with disability. Dr Khandaker is widely published and has over 65 peer reviewed publications. He has established research collaborations in several LMICs including Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Vietnam.



Dr Steve O'Flaherty

Sydney, NSW, Australia

I worked full-time as a Rehab Paediatrician and Clinician Manager for 30+ years at the Children's Hospital at Westmead with clinical work being in CP and ABI management. I now work part-time just in CP management and in assessing children for and injecting them with Botulinum Toxin.



Dr Melinda Randall

Melbourne, Vic, Australia

Melinda is a paediatric occupational therapist with 30 years clinical experience working with children with cerebral palsy. Melinda's interest in evaluating therapeutic outcomes for children with cerebral palsy led her to undertake her doctoral studies on assessing the measurement properties of 'The Melbourne Assessment of Unilateral Upper Limb Function' including modifying and extending the scale for use with children as young as 2 years. The result of Melinda's studies was the development of a revised version of the assessment titled 'The Melbourne Assessment 2'.



Melinda is currently a Senior Occupational Therapist responsible for Clinical Education and Research at The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne.

Dr Siobhan Reid

Senior Lecturer, Clinical and Rehabilitation Biomechanics

Perth, WA, Australia

Siobhan is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Western Australia and BrightSpark Fellow at PMH. She has over 15 years experience in human movement science, specialising in understanding the movement of children with neurodevelopmental disorders, including cerebral palsy. In her PhD studies she investigated strength training for children with cerebral palsy and has 35 publications in the area. She lectures in Paediatric Exercise Rehabilitation and is a Director of the Paediatric Exercise Programs at UWA. Siobhan serves on the Board of the Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine and Chairs the Professional Development Portfolio.



https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Siobhan_Reid/contributions

<http://www.sseh.uwa.edu.au/community/pep>



@_SiReid_

Professor Adam Scheinberg

Rehab Paediatrician

Melbourne, Vic, Australia

Adam is a rehab paediatrician and Medical Director of the Victorian Paediatric Rehabilitation Service. He is an active researcher and clinician, and has been involved with the AusACPDM for many years in various roles. He is currently Chair of the International relations and Strategic Alliance portfolio. He enjoys bushwalking, golf, skiing and gardening. He lives in Melbourne with his wife, a contemporary artist, 2 energetic teenagers and an Aussie shepherd.



Dr Hayley Smithers-Sheedy

Research Fellow, PhD, MPH, BAppSc(SpPath)

Sydney, NSW, Australia

Hayley is an NH&MRC Post-Doctoral Fellow with Cerebral Palsy Alliance, The University of Sydney and the Australasian Cerebral Palsy Clinical Trials Network. Hayley's role is to coordinate and support the establishment, maintenance, and execution of research from the Australian Cerebral Palsy Register and to build both local and international research capacity. Hayley is an investigator on the Bangladesh and Sri Lankan Cerebral Palsy Registers. In her doctoral studies Hayley investigated the burden of cerebral palsy amongst children with congenital cytomegalovirus (cCMV). In her post-doctoral research Hayley is investigating opportunities for prevention of maternal infection, early identification of neurodevelopmental disabilities amongst infants with cCMV and the long-term sequelae associated with this common congenital infection.

https://twitter.com/hss_1



Ms Clare Stevens

Physiotherapist

Brisbane, QLD, Australia

I have been working in the paediatric and disability field for 28 years. I currently work in an Education setting based at a special school and for a not for profit service based in the community.

My passion is working with students with complex needs and their families. I am particularly interested in children who present with a neurodevelopmental disorder such as CP and are classified at GMFCS IV and V. I am very interested in the role of the physiotherapist in facilitating communication for this group of children. I have significant experience in complex seating prescription and powered mobility and technology use. I have also had significant experience in all other equipment prescription. I believe strongly in physical activity and any self-initiated movement as a learning experience for all including those with significant physical challenges.

