

Welcome to the GoldNet Research Newsletter

GoldNet Research was established in 2019 to support practice-based primary care research in our region. The practice-based research network (PBRN) offers opportunities to learn about and be involved in research with the support of Bond University, Griffith University, [General Practice Gold Coast \(GPGC\)](#) and the [Gold Coast PHN](#).

In 2023, we focused on “closing the research loop” and selected topics and speakers that align with this for events and journal clubs. Closing the loop means bringing results back to the end-users who use and implement research in evidence-based practice.

Information about upcoming events and research opportunities are available on the [website](#).

GoldNet Research Steering Committee

The role of the [steering committee](#) is to provide strategic direction and oversight of all aspects of the PBRN development, maintenance, and growth.

Research Event “Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) in Australia”

The first face-to-face event for 2023 was held at Bond University on the 7th March. We had expert guest speaker, Prof Alastair Hay, from the University of Bristol, UK, a leading researcher in primary care and antimicrobial resistance. He was joined by local health professionals, Dr Ashlee Meigh (GP), Prof Gerben Kijzers (ED Physician), and Prof Paul Glasziou in an expert panel. [Link for Zoom recording](#).

Key messages:

- With government and policy support, the UK has been able to deliver multiple ongoing public health campaigns such as the antibiotic guardian program, and “keep antibiotics working” campaign. Australia has not received the same supports, with the defunding of NPS as an example of this.

- When engaging the public on AMS, younger generations seem more open to it. Education of both the public and medical professionals during training, changing how practices are organised will help change culture, and emphasising the personal/family adverse effects of a lack of antibiotic awareness and decrease demand for unnecessary antibiotic use.

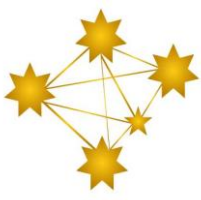
Journal Club “Nicotine Vaping for Smoking Cessation”

On June 29th, Assistant Prof Loai Albarqouni led our virtual journal club, joined by an expert panel: Associate Prof Kristin Cardon-Chahhoud (Uni of SA, and board director of Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand) Ms Melis Selamoglu (Monash Uni) and Prof Nick Zwar, (GoldNet Steering Committee chair). The article discussed: [“Electronic cigarettes for smoking cessation.”](#)

Key messages:

- Based on the Cochrane review results, people using nicotine E-cigarettes for smoking cessation are more likely to quit smoking than people who use nicotine replacement therapy. However, there are more adverse and serious adverse events that occurred in the use of nicotine E-cigarettes than nicotine replacement therapy.
- The most pressing question asked from the group: “So, we get people to cease cigarette smoking by using vapes or e-cigarettes. What next?”
- The Australian Government changes to importing and prescribing vapes, and e-cigarettes create challenges for prescribers, especially GPs.
- Ms Selamoglu’s presentation on an interview study of Australian GPs and their views on e-cigarette prescription ([pre-print available](#)) outlined that GPs have diverse attitudes about e-cigarettes for smoking cessation and require clear guidelines and information on products to provide advice to patients.

The article, journal club recording, and slides can be found on the [GoldNet website](#).



Projects Update

Since the PBRN was established, we have supported 17 research projects from: Bond Uni, Griffith Uni, Sydney Uni, Monash, The University of Queensland, UNSW, and The University of Melbourne. Topics have covered screening, treatment and management of acute and chronic conditions, non-drug interventions, and professional practice.

GoldNet is supporting the following active projects: [“Activating Primary Care COPD Patients with Multimorbidity \(APCOM\) Trial”](#), aims to improve the quality of life of patients with COPD and other chronic conditions through an innovative nurse-led tailored, self-management program. APCOM is a MRFF-funded primary health care implementation research initiative.

[“GP's use of non-drug interventions in primary care”](#), Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare researchers in collaboration with RACGP are conducting a program of research to optimise the use of non-drug interventions in primary care, including designing an effective platform for prescribing non-drug interventions.

[“Perceived relevance of consequences of diagnostic labelling”](#), researchers from the Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare are interested in GPs current practice and how best to communicate to patients about the potential harms and benefits of routine screening for non-cancer health conditions.

[“Childhood sleep problems in primary care”](#), Bond University researchers are conducting a NHMRC-funded qualitative research study aiming to explore GPs’ experiences, perspective and current practices in helping children who have sleep problems.

Further information about projects supported by GoldNet is available on the [website](#).

Dissemination of Research Supported by GoldNet

We invite you to join us in congratulating GoldNet supported researchers and their teams in the completion and dissemination of their projects. GoldNet supported the following projects in recruiting participants. We thank our members who contributed by participating or sharing projects.

Jenna Smith, Uni of Sydney PhD candidate for publishing for her project GoldNet supported: [“General practitioners’ views and experiences of communicating with older people about cancer screening: a qualitative study”](#).

Melis Selamoglu, Monash Uni PhD candidate for presenting her research at three conferences this year (national and international) for her project GoldNet supported, [pre-print available](#). Further detail on project: [“GPs knowledge, attitudes and prescribing intentions for e-cigarettes as a smoking cessation aid”](#).

Upcoming events

Upcoming in-person event on *“cancer care in primary care”* with guest speaker [Professor John Brodersen from the University of Copenhagen](#) is planned for Mid-October. Sign-up to our [member list](#) to stay updated. Topic suggestions for research events or journal clubs, please forward them to the PBRN email: goldnet@bond.edu.au

