

## Welcome to the GoldNet Research Newsletter.

The plan is to send a newsletter to GoldNet Research members on a twice-yearly basis. Information about GoldNet Research activities, upcoming events, and research studies is also available on the website at [www.goldnetresearch.com.au](http://www.goldnetresearch.com.au).

GoldNet Research was established in 2019 to support practice-based primary care research in our region. The network offers an opportunity to learn about and be involved in research with the support of Bond University, Griffith University, and the Gold Coast PHN. An initial meeting was held in 2019 but with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic it was not possible to hold further events until July 2021. However there have been a range of activities which are briefly described below.

### **GoldNet Research Steering Committee:**

A steering committee has been established and has met regularly. The role of the steering committee is to provide strategic direction and oversight of all aspects of the development, maintenance, and growth of the organisation. Committee members are Professor Nick Zwar (chair), Professor Mark Morgan, Associate Professor Lauren Ball, Ms Deborah Davies, Dr Loai Albarqouni, Ms Anthea Blower and Dr Katrina McLean. The committee has developed a process for assessing requests from external research groups who want assistance with their project from GoldNet Research affiliated practices.

One of the decisions of the committee was that in 2021 the focus should be on re-engaging practices with GoldNet Research. With this in mind, it was decided to have two

face to face events over the course of the year, to establish a journal club and to commence sending out a newsletter.

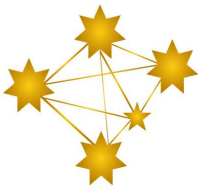
### **GoldNet Research meeting:**

The first of these face-to-face events, held at Bond on 13<sup>th</sup> July, was on the topic of using general practice data to answer research questions. Dr Carl de Wet, who was to be the keynote speaker, was unwell on the night but Mark Morgan stepped in to give Carl's presentation and then the 20 attendees discussed in small groups practice related questions that they would like answered and how general practice data could assist to do so. There were a wide range of ideas discussed including a deep dive into general practice data to examine billing patterns, whether practice data could be used to monitor GP wellbeing, optimal frequency of monitoring in chronic conditions, impact of mental health care plans on patient outcomes and whether digital rectal examination adds value to the detection of prostate cancer.

Displaying his mastery of PollEverywhere technology, Loai Albarqouni got the attendees to vote on their preferred topic for an inaugural journal club (the winner was vaccine hesitancy and strategies to approach this issue), preferred mode for the journal club (face-to-face or virtual), frequency (every three months) and day and time (evening early in the week).

### **GoldNet Journal Club:**

The inaugural online journal is scheduled for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October and is the topic of interventions to address vaccine hesitancy. Professor Julie Leask from the University of Sydney is contributing as a resource person for the event.



### **GoldNet Research meeting:**

A further face to face event, COVID permitting, is planned for Tuesday 2nd November at Griffith University Gold Coast campus. The topic is evidence-based strategies to support behaviour change.

### **Projects Update:**

There are several research projects currently in progress. Four practices are involved in a NHMRC funded study examining the question of whether screening for depression in general practice improves patient mental health outcomes. Researchers at the University of Sydney/Bond University are inviting GPs to take part in a research study aiming to codesign a new model of care – ‘delay and consider’ – for prostate cancer screening. A project from the Bond Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare on antibiotic stewardship in the community which involves co-design of an intervention between GPs and the research team. Information about all of these projects is available on the GoldNet research website at [www.goldnetresearch.com.au/projects](http://www.goldnetresearch.com.au/projects).

At a state-wide level the Athena COVID-19 study aims to describe the health outcomes of people diagnosed with COVID-19 in Queensland, over time and in relation to

patient characteristics, by combining COVID-19 notification, hospital, general practice and death registry data. More information is available at [www.health.qld.gov.au/research-reports/research-projects/athena-covid-19](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/research-reports/research-projects/athena-covid-19). In other project news a team led by Nick Zwar have been successful in a Medical Research Future Fund grant for a project on evaluating a self-management support program for patients with both chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other long-term conditions.

### **Upcoming events:**

**GoldNet online Journal Club:** Wednesday, 13 October, [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/goldnet-research-network-inaugural-virtual-journal-club-meeting-tickets-172482699397](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/goldnet-research-network-inaugural-virtual-journal-club-meeting-tickets-172482699397)

**GoldNet face to face meeting,** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Griffith University Gold Coast campus. Focus on Behaviour Change. Speakers include Dr Roshan Rigby, Associate Professor Lauren Ball and Dr David Chua

**The Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD).** Sunday 7-Wednesday 10 November 2021, Brisbane. [www.apsadconference2021.com.au](http://www.apsadconference2021.com.au)

