



Welcome to the summer 2019 edition of our newsletter!

Since our last edition, the Partnership Centre has been busy producing new papers, workshops, and seminars.

Here are some highlights from the three Research Themes and the Centre-wide activities.

New publications

Coiera, E (2018) [On algorithms, machines, and medicine](#). *The Lancet. Oncology*, **S1470-2045**(18): 30835-0.

Coiera, E (2018) [The fate of medicine in the time of AI](#). *The Lancet*, **392**(10162): 2331-2332.

Fraser, H et al. (2018) [Safety of patient-facing digital symptom checkers](#). *The Lancet*, **392**(10161): 2263-2264.

Gates, PJ et al. (2019) [The prevalence of dose errors among paediatric patients in hospital wards with and without health information technology: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#). *Drug Safety*, **42**(1): 13-25.

Jessup, R et al. (2019) [Alternative service models for delivery of healthcare services in high-income countries: a scoping review of systematic reviews](#). *BMJ Open*, **9**: e024385.

Selected media hits and opinion pieces

[Slashing nursing paperwork to improve patient care](#). (Gray, L, *UQ News*, 12 September 2018).

[Bullying and harassment of health workers endangers patient safety](#). (Westbrook, J and Sunderland, N, *The Conversation*, 4 November 2018).

[Research waste is still a scandal—an essay by Paul Glasziou and Iain Chalmers](#). (Glasziou, P and Chalmers, I, *BMJ*, 12 November 2018).

[How to fix a sick hospital: attend to its stressed health carers](#). (Braithwaite, J, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 22 November 2018).

[Surgery for common shoulder problem doesn't work](#). (Buchbinder, R, *ABC Health Report*, 11 February 2019).

[Better health care can 'make economic sense'](#). (Karnon, J, *InDaily*, 14 February 2019).

Using Analytics, Technology and Shared Data

This Research Theme tackles the big questions in informatics and healthcare including, the impact of shared health information, big data, and telehealth on the quality, effectiveness and cost of care. Professors [Johanna Westbrook](#), [Enrico Coiera](#) and [Len Gray](#) lead this research.

Highlights include:

- Commentary on how aged care in Australia can be improved using existing data *before* the release of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety's report. ([Aged care: no need to wait for Royal Commission](#) (Westbrook, J, *BMJ InSight+*, 5 November 2018)),
- New findings that estimate about 5% of paediatric inpatient medication orders contain a dosing error. ([Gates et al. 2019](#)),
- A systematic review of hospital dashboards is in progress. So far it has uncovered over 1000 primary studies and will provide a comprehensive view of electronic dashboards and their functionality and usefulness,
- Three papers published in *The Lancet* on artificial intelligence in medicine and e-health ([Coiera, E \(2018\)](#), [Coiera, E \(2018\)](#) and [Fraser et al. \(2018\)](#)) and,
- Reports on the scope of telehealth activities to be released soon. One report examines what types of services are available in Australia and how they are delivered, and the other will reveal when telehealth is cost-effective and/or essential for equitable access.

In addition, we welcome Associate Professor Shlomo Berkovsky to the research team. Associate Professor Berkovsky previously

worked at CSIRO, Data61 and Atlassian and will be working on next generation decision-support software development.

Reducing Waste and Low-value Care

Approximately, 30% of healthcare is not beneficial or not delivered within guidelines. Worse yet, 10% of care is actually harmful to the patient. The teams led by Professors [Paul Glasziou](#) and [Rachelle Buchbinder](#) are undertaking research into reducing waste from unnecessary or inappropriate care and delivering effective and appropriate services at a lower cost.

Highlights include:

- Finalisation of a systematic review to estimate overdiagnosis of cancer,
- A review of the effects of new gestational diabetes guidelines on the reporting and treatment of the condition,
- Completion of a DELPHI study to prioritise viable alternative models of care along with a webinar: [‘Alternative service models to achieve lower cost delivery of healthcare’](#), by Dr Rebecca Jessup and Dr Polina Putrik and,
- A workshop on [‘Lower cost delivery of effective and appropriate services’](#) involving investigators, health system partners and consumer groups.

Promoting Better Value for the Health Dollar

This research theme, led by Professors [Tony Scott](#) and [Jon Karnon](#) and [Dr Delia Hendrie](#), covers four major areas: 1) using financial incentives to promote value-based healthcare, 2) priority setting and decision-making in health care organisations, 3) the impact of markets, competition and choice in healthcare, and 4) the impact of a collaborative research program on cost savings and efficiencies in health care settings.

Highlights include:

- In-DEPtH (Evidence-informed, co-creation framework for the Design, Evaluation and Procurement of Health services) framework developed to support commissioning of primary health services by Primary Health Networks (PHNs). Please get in touch with [Jon Karnon](#) for more information or to discuss collaboration and,
- A webinar on in-DEPTH was held on 17 of October 2018 by Professor Jon Karnon, Dr Kenneth Lo and Ms Jade Hart (Victorian PHN Alliance) on [designing evidence-informed and cost-effective health services](#) to support decisions about health service commissioning by PHNs.

The Centre also congratulates Amanda Reyes Veliz, an Honours student from the University of Adelaide [evaluating end-of-life interventions in aged care facilities](#), on submitting her thesis. She received a 1st class Honours. Well done Amanda!

Partnership Centre-wide Activities

The Partnership Centre Team has also been actively promoting health system sustainability research through meetings,

workshops and conferences as well as published papers.

Here are a few highlights of what's been happening:

Welcome

- [Dr Jean-Frederick Levesque](#), Director of the Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) has joined the Partnership Centre as a System-based Investigator representing our funding partner, NSW Health.
- [Dr Darren Gibson](#), Director of Research Development for the Department of Health WA, became a member of the Governance Authority in December.
- Dr K-lynn Smith joined the Partnership Centre in October as the new Research and Administration Officer.

The Partnership Centre is looking forward to working with you all!

Outreach

- [Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite](#) has been speaking with senior government officials and colleagues nationally and internationally about health system sustainability.
- [Associate Professor Yvonne Zurynski](#) has contributed to white papers and national conferences, such as the [Snakes and Ladders](#) Workshop on Primary Care Integration, the Research Australia Health Economics Round Table and the [Shifting Gears - Consumers transforming health white paper](#).

Workshops

- A Workshop on [Systematic Reviews of Expert Opinion and Policy Documents](#) was held on 8 February. In this one-day workshop, [Dr Catalin Tufanaru](#) and [Associate Professor Yvonne Zurynski](#) gave participants hands-on experience in critically evaluating non-research papers and preparing systematic reviews of the non-research ('grey') literature and,
- An Investigation Team Workshop on innovative models of healthcare delivery was hosted on 15-16 October 2018. [A summary of the outcomes is available on our website.](#)

Research

- Completion of a commissioned report for Research Australia entitled, '**Maximising MRFF Impact: Recommendations for Accelerating Research Translation and Implementation**'. Following a rapid review, five key recommendations were made and a framework for assessing the translational research impact of the MRFF was developed: Framework for Research Impact Measurement in Australia (FRIMA),
- Collaboration with Consumers Health Forum of Australia to develop and deploy a pilot survey, which gauged consumer sentiment about the Australian Healthcare System, with over 1000 respondents. Analysis of the results is in progress ,
- Completion of a **Crowd-Wisdom Survey**, wherein data from ~90 participants at the International Hospital Federation's World Hospital Conference in October was collected on their views of factors affecting health system sustainability,
- Three literature reviews on healthcare system sustainability are ongoing,

- Publication of two systematic review protocols: [Braithwaite et al. 2018](#), [Braithwaite et al. 2017](#) and,
 - A research project, led by [Dr Trent Yeend](#) and in conjunction with the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA), has commenced to analyse the pressures and challenges faced by Australia's public hospitals through a series of four studies covering: cost, financing, efficiency, and safety and quality.
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Contact

If you would like to partner with a stream of health system sustainability research, or you have an interest in any of the above areas of research, please [contact us](#).

Warm regards,

The Partnership Centre Team on behalf of:

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