



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

2025 Research Report Card

QUEENSLAND CEREBRAL PALSY AND REHABILITATION
RESEARCH CENTRE
CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH CENTRE





ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country as Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands on which we meet and work.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and Descendants who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.

We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

¹ Image: Digital Reproduction of A guidance through time created by Quandamooka artists Casey Coolwell and Kyra Mancktelow for The University of Queensland Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

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Executive Summary

The Queensland Cerebral Palsy and Rehabilitation Research Centre (QCPRRRC) has achieved 19 years of continuous research impact and output (since 2007) due to ongoing philanthropic support from the Merchant Charitable Foundation (MCF). The continued philanthropic support from MCF via the Children's Hospital Foundation and matching funds from The University of Queensland have enabled and contributed to the QCPRRRC's successes in obtaining nationally and internationally competitive funding. Major funding sources in 2025 include the NHMRC Cerebral Palsy Synergy Program (A\$5M), two joint Australian NHMRC and European Union Horizon programs – Born-To-Get-There (€3.7M) and Artificial Intelligence in Cerebral Palsy (AI-CP; €6M), both with A\$0.5M to support the Australian-arm of the programs and a new NHMRC CRE Aus-Health Network (\$3M).

In addition, the QCPRRRC team has demonstrated a strong track record in achieving numerous MRFF project funds such as the "CP-KASP" consumer led project and the MRFF Clinician Researchers - Nurses Midwives and Allied Health project "PACT-ONLINE". The MRFF consumer-led program the Cerebral Palsy Knowledge, Advocacy and Support Program (CP-KASP) co-led by Prof Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Fiona Russso and Dr Shaneen Leishman (who has lived experience of Cerebral Palsy).

2025 was a very productive year for the QCPRRRC team; where we have collaboratively published 59 journal articles and presented 20 research papers at national and international meetings showcasing the outstanding results/outcomes of this UQ centre research programs. The QCPRRRC team has accomplished a Return on Investment (RoI) of 14.8 in 2025 based on the income received, leveraging from the \$0.3M Merchant philanthropic support and \$0.3M UQ strategic funds.

In 2025, the team has continued to extend its clinical trials across Australia, Europe and Southeast Asia working in the LEAP-CP trial with indigenous communities in regional and remote Queensland and now in the Northern Territory as well as supporting the EU Horizon Teams in Sri Lanka and Georgia in Eastern Europe. Leading the successful LEAP-CP program and as the Australian-arm of the international Born-To-Get-There consortium, the project team has successfully screened over >800 infants and recruited 152 infants to the Early Intervention LEAP-CP clinical trial to date. We have commenced surveillance and recruitment with our Aboriginal Medical Services in the NT to develop further capacity with our local community workers to upskill and translate our LEAP surveillance and early support program in urban, regional and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

QCPRRRC and our collaborators have jointly marked numerous milestones in 2025 – I hope you enjoy reading about some of the key achievements and highlights from our work, and - whether you are a consumer, parent, researcher, clinician, or one of our many supporters – and that you will join our network as we would be delighted to work with you.



Roslyn N Boyd, Professor of Cerebral Palsy Research, UQ Child Health Research Centre, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences, The University of Queensland. Scientific Director, Queensland Cerebral Palsy & Rehabilitation Research Centre
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QCPRRC Awards and Achievements

- In 2025, under Prof. Roslyn Boyd's leadership, along with senior researchers Professor Leanne Sakzewski and A/Prof Koa Whittingham, QCPRRC staff and students published 59 peer-reviewed journal articles and had significant involvement in 10 premier international conferences (both keynote presentations & free papers 21) and project stakeholder engagement activities.
- QCPRRC team and collaborators have collectively achieved an actual income of \$4.4M in 2025.
- The QCPRRC team has accomplished RoI of 14.8 in 2025 based on the income received, leveraging from the \$0.3M philanthropic support from the Merchant Charitable Foundation.
- Three QCPRRC members received promotions: Professor Leanne Sakzewski was appointed Conjoint Professor at the School of Rehabilitation Sciences and Child Health Queensland; Associate Professor Koa Whittingham was promoted to Associate Professor in the UQ Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Science; and Dr Kath Benfer was promoted to Senior Lecturer in the UQ Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Science.
- Launched a new Centre for Research Excellence Australian Cerebral Palsy Health Network (CRE Aus-CP-Health-Net). CRE Aus-CP-Health-Net strives to improve the treatment of children with cerebral palsy and their families through innovative research and sharing these with clinicians, providing independence, participation and quality of life. The Centre is a \$3 million world-leading multi-institutional collaboration funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia from 2025 – 2030.
- A/Prof Koa Whittingham led a team of researchers in a successful MRFF Allied Health Researchers project grant “PACT-Online”, an E-health program that has already recruited 300 families of children with disability 0-12 years.
- Prof. Sakzewski and Dr Fiona Russo were awarded \$1M from MRFF to develop a consumer led research initiative “CP-KASP”, to support families to navigate the different health systems including the National Disability Insurance Scheme, NDIS and empower them to advocate for their children.
- Prof Boyd was the scientific convenor and Vice President of the European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD) & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability (IAACD) which convened the largest international cerebral palsy (CP) related conference ever (>2000 delegates from 87 countries) in Heidelberg in Germany. Dr Kath Benfer was invited as a keynote speaker and delivered a presentation entitled: “It takes a village: harnessing the power of communities for early intervention in hard-to-reach communities.”

2025 QCPRRC Research Highlights

Launched a new Centre for Research Excellence Australian Cerebral Palsy Health Network (CRE Aus-CP-Health-Net)

CRE Aus-CP-Health-Net strives to improve outcomes for children with cerebral palsy and their families through innovative research and the translation of findings into clinical practice, supporting greater independence, participation, and quality of life. The Centre is a \$3 million, world-leading, multi-institutional collaboration funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council from 2025 to 2030.

This work spans five key areas: Early Detection and Intervention; Intensive Neurorehabilitation and Physical Activity; Mental Health and Sleep; Precision Medicine and Biomarkers; and Implementation and Translation. The Centre is proud to partner with numerous organisations to deliver this five-year research program. Aus-CP-Health-Net brings together leading research centres from across Australia and New Zealand.

The Centre aims to conduct world-standard, multisite clinical trials to improve early detection and identify the most effective interventions and treatments for children with cerebral palsy. Led by Professor Leanne Sakzewski, the Centre includes nine additional Chief Investigators, including Professor Roslyn Boyd and Associate Professor Koa Whittingham; ten Associate Investigators, including Dr Fiona Russo, DR Kath Benfer, and DR Sarah Reedman; four Clinical Care and Associate Research Networks; 18 early- and mid-career researchers; and 16 PhD students.

European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD) & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability (IAACD) 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.



Professor Roslyn Boyd was the scientific convenor and Vice President of the International Alliance of Academies of Childhood onset disability (IAACD) which convened the largest international CP related conference ever (>2000 delegates from 87 countries) in Heidelberg in Germany with 15 members of QCPRRC participating. Under the theme “Developing Networks – Networks for Development.” this conference showcased leading research and clinical advances in childhood disability and developmental disorders while promoting global collaboration and networking. Researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and representatives from organizations such as UNICEF and the World Health Organization participated alongside parents and individuals with lived experience, who played an active role in the discussions and organization of the event.

Born-To-Get-There EU Horizon project final wrap up².



The "Born-To-Get-There" project, which began in February 2020 and concluded in December 2025, was funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program (grant agreement No 848201). The initiative involved a consortium of partners, including Università' Di Pisa (Italy), Fondazione Stella Maris (Italy), Københavns Universitet (Denmark), Academisch Ziekenhuis Groningen (the Netherlands), Cerebral Palsy Lanka Foundation (Sri Lanka), David Tvildiani Medical University Llc (Georgia), The University of Queensland (Australia), Hubstract Srl (Italy), and Fondazione Toscana Life Sciences (Italy). For more details on the project: <https://www.borntogetthere.eu/>.

The "Born-To-Get-There" project has made a profound impact by addressing the early detection, surveillance, and

intervention of young children with Cerebral Palsy (CP) and supporting their families in Italy, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sri-Lanka, Australia, and Georgia. For the first time, in both high- and low-resource locations, the project trained more than 1,000 healthcare professionals on the best tools available for very early detection and management of infants with CP and their families. This effort went beyond training by emphasizing practical implementation: more than 5,000 babies were screened, and over 500 were identified as being at high risk of CP. These children were subsequently enrolled in evidence-based early interventions such as the LEAP program, including in low-resource settings (Georgia, Sri Lanka and for First Nations Families in Australia, thereby enhancing early outcomes.

By integrating evidence-based international guidelines into healthcare practices, the project strengthened early care pathways and directly improved outcomes for children at risk of CP. Ukraine also contributed to the dissemination and availability of materials and e-learning resources, further expanding the project's reach. This dual focus on education and real-world application empowered healthcare professionals and stakeholders to provide tangible benefits for children and families. The project's outcomes were celebrated during a final meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia, attended by politicians, parents of children with CP, and other stakeholders who were directly impacted by the initiative. Looking ahead, the project aims to further promote this approach by expanding training for healthcare professionals in additional European countries and extending the methodology to address other paediatric conditions, such as autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities. By continuing to strengthen early detection and intervention strategies, the "Born-To-Get-There" project aspires to make a lasting, global impact on paediatric care. The Project concluded in December 2025 with several publications in process.



**1000 clinicians trained,
5000 children screened,
500 children identified
for early intervention**

² BornToGetThere: <http://borntogetthere.eu/>

QCPRRC and AusCP-CTN³ partners enrolment >3440 children with CP and neurodevelopmental disabilities

The QCPRRC and the AusCP-CTN CRE team continues to excel in conducting randomised controlled trials (RCTs) for infants and children with CP and other neurodevelopmental disabilities. Our team has led more RCTs in cerebral palsy than any other group globally, uniquely positioning us to aggregate trial findings and conduct prospective follow-up. This enables us to determine long-term school and employment outcomes for children with CP who have received early neuroprotection and neurorehabilitation. Internationally, our group is renowned for generating groundbreaking knowledge that fundamentally transforms practice and policy. Our contributions include early diagnosis, early intervention, functional therapy guidelines, MRI standards, and genetic causal pathways. Our strong ties to the Australian CP Register allow us to evaluate neurodevelopmental and school readiness outcomes for children identified early and treated with neuroprotectants and early neurorehabilitation. Since 2017, the AusCP-CTN team has collaborated with medical researchers, clinicians, and allied health professionals, successfully recruiting over >3440 families with children with CP and neurodevelopmental disabilities across 17 multi-site RCTs, cohort studies, and surveillance programs. Over the last year, children identified as high chance of CP or neurodevelopmental disability have been offered nine intervention trials. The latest project updates are reported from page 10.



Recruited >3440
children with CP across
17 multisite clinical trials

QCPRRC & Aus-CP-CTN Education Programs update



The Australasian Cerebral Palsy Clinical Trials Network AusCP-CTN unites key opinion leaders and clinicians working in the field of child neurology across all states of Australia, along with international partners in New Zealand, Europe, SE Asia and USA. The AusCP-CTN aims to foster and develop current and future leaders in cerebral palsy research and clinical practice. Our vision for the future workforce for children with CP is to build national capacity comprising individuals with expertise in more than one key area of research and/or training (basic science/ neuroscience, epidemiology, clinical/health services initiatives, and translation/ implementation). Through our extensive Education Program, we aim to provide and facilitate a range of interactive clinical trainings and workshops for researchers and clinical professionals.

To date our Education Program⁴ has benefited over 2,850+ clinicians, health professionals, researchers, and higher degree research students in upskilling their knowledge and skills in novel paediatric neurological research, early diagnosis and interventions, Systematic Reviews, Grant Writing, and dissemination.



Trained >+2850
researchers and health
professionals

In 2025, teams across the Queensland Cerebral Palsy & Rehabilitation Research Centre (QCPRRC) and AusCP-CTN have hosted:

- 3 practical Hammersmith Infant Neurological examination (HINE) (full day) workshops with 86 attendees in March, May and in November.
- Discover Workshop on how participation in physical activity the entry point for paediatric interventions led by Professor Leanne Sakzewski and Dr Gaela Kilgour can be, with 14 attendees.
- Systematic Review & GRADE Analysis Workshop (online), with 52 attendees.

³ AusCP-CTN Education Program Eol: <https://cre-auscpctn.centre.uq.edu.au/education-program>

2025 Online Systematic Review Workshop and GRADE Analysis Course

A virtual eight-week Systematic Review Workshop was held online, 7 Feb – 4 April 2025 with 52 attendees. The interactive workshop was designed to enable the attendees to gain a comprehensive knowledge and practical experience in conducting a systematic review and meta-analysis of efficacy of treatment, a clinimetric review of measures, and/or a review of diagnostic criteria for a clinical area. Despite challenging time differences, the intensive eight-week workshop attracted 52 attendees (researchers, higher degree research students, medical clinicians and health professionals) from across the time zones of Australia, Georgia, and USA. From QCPRRC, Prof Ros Boyd, Prof Leanne Sakzewski led the course with input from our Research Occupational Therapist Dr Andrea Burgess and Prof. Robert Ware (Professor of Biostatistics and clinical epidemiology, Griffith University), who presented lectures on Biostatistics for Clinical Trials, Meta-Analysis and Clinimetrics.

As part of the Systematic Review Workshop, Dr Sue Brennan from the Melbourne GRADE Centre provided a one-day interactive session on GRADE analysis. GRADE (Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluations) a transparent framework for developing and presenting summaries of evidence and provides a systematic approach for making clinical practice recommendations. Workshop topics included: Overview (GRADE in systematic review, guideline process), Interpreting effect estimates, How to GRADE the evidence, Using GRADE criteria and Making recommendations. For more information about our Systematic Review workshop and EOI for the in 2026: <https://cre-auscpcn.centre.uq.edu.au/education-program>

Final HABIT-ILE studies for Children with CP in Australia



HABIT-ILE is an acronym which stands for Hand-Arm Bimanual Intensive Therapy including Lower Extremity. HABIT-ILE is an intensive, goal-directed therapy approach which simultaneously engages the upper and lower extremities and postural control. HABIT-ILE is based on known principles of motor learning and neuroplasticity. For example, it uses highly structured intensive practice, with practice-induced brain changes arise from repetition. Tasks and activities are graded to the just-right challenge to bring about success, and activities are shaped so that the task becomes progressively more complex with the aim of achieving a functional goal in mind. Positive reinforcement is used to motivate the child.

HABIT-ILE was first put forward as a model of intervention for children with cerebral palsy by Professor Yannick Bleyenheuft and Professor Andrew

Gordon in 2014. Since then, research has been published mainly from Europe and USA. The first Australian study of HABIT-ILE was completed in 2020 in a multi-site trial led by QCPRRC's Professor Leanne Sakzewski and involved children aged 8 to 16 years.

In 2021, QCPRRC commenced a research trial called Preschool HABIT-ILE for children aged 2-5 years who had bilateral cerebral palsy. Preschool HABIT-ILE was adapted to be more feasible for families with young children, with children attending therapy for 3 hours per day at the Queensland Children's Hospital, Queensland Paediatric Rehabilitation Department. The Preschool HABIT-ILE study was led by Prof Leanne Sakzewski, together with Dr Andrea Burgess and PhD student Kate McLeod, Coordinator Sarah Goodman, and QCPRRC therapists Chris Finn and Sarah Gibson.

Professor Yannick Bleyenheuft provided regular guidance from Belgium via zoom. Student volunteers were an essential part of the research project. The data collection for Preschool HABIT-ILE is now complete, and analysis of the results is underway.

Contact Details: Study Coordinator Sarah Goodman s.goodman@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Yannick Bleyenheuft, Prof. Iona Novak, Prof. Catherine Elliott, Dr Nicholas Dowson, Dr Cath Morgan, Dr Kerstin Pannek.

Research team: Dr Andrea Burgess, PhD OT. E: a.burgess@uq.edu.au

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council project grant (1144846); Ramaciotti Health Investment Grants, (2020-2022).

Publications: Sakzewski, L et al., (2021) *BMJ Open*, 11(3), 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-041542>

Sakzewski, L. et al, (2025). *J of Pediatrics* 284. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2025.114666>

Current Project and Studies

Early Intervention

Early detection and intervention for babies with cerebral palsy

Testimonial:

"LEAP journey has been amazing. Just to have the support during a time of high anxiety. The consistency of being with a support worker who can guide us through this journey. The continuing of care is huge. Have the same support worker come out and support us and develop those relationships not only with myself, my bub but the entire family. It takes out a lot of stress."

Parent of Participant

NHMRC Cerebral Palsy Synergy Program Early Prediction of Infant Neurodevelopmental Outcomes: EPINO Study⁵

The Early Prediction of Infant Neurodevelopmental Outcomes (E-PINO) study, funded by the NHMRC Synergy Grant (\$5M; 2022-2026), is making significant strides in its mission to understand and predict neurodevelopmental outcomes for children at risk of cerebral palsy. Since its launch, recruitment is progressing well with participation at



the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH), Monash Medical Centre and recently commenced at the Townsville University Hospital.

The collaborative effort between top research institutions such as RBWH, Monash Medical Centre (MMC), Townsville University Hospital (TUH), CSIRO, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, and the University of Adelaide, facilitates the analysis of diverse data types, offering a more detailed and multifaceted approach to uncovering early predictors of conditions such as cerebral palsy. The ePINO study is pioneering in its integrated approach, combining neuroimaging, HD EEG, genomics, proteomics, gut microbiome analysis, feeding data, and clinical biomarkers, all aimed at developing automated predictive analysis tools. This innovative combination of technologies is set to significantly improve early diagnostic and intervention strategies and ultimately pave the way for better outcomes for children at high-risk of cerebral palsy and other neurodevelopmental disorders. So far n=140 high risk infants have been recruited at the RBWH and MMH with the TUH due to start in early 2026.

Testimonial:

"The decision to have our baby be part of the ePINO study was a happy one. We were excited to be a part of work that may help other families have better understanding and strategies to help with their child's learning and development in future."

Parent of Participant

Contact Details: EPINO Coordinator epino@uq.edu.au Dr Morgan Carlton

Investigators: Prof Roslyn Boyd, Prof Iona Novak, Prof Michael Fahey, Prof Paul Colditz, Prof Rod Hunt, Prof Nadia Badawi, Dr Jurgen Fripp, Dr Kerstin Pannek, Dr Alex Pagnozzi, A/Prof Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Mark Corbett, A/Professor James Roberts, A/Prof Severine Navarro, A/Prof Atul Malhotra, Dr Liza van Eijk.

Funding: This project is funded by NHMRC Synergy grant 2010736 Aus\$5M.

LEAP-CP⁶: Learning through Everyday Activities with Parents, for infants at high risk of CP in Indigenous Australia

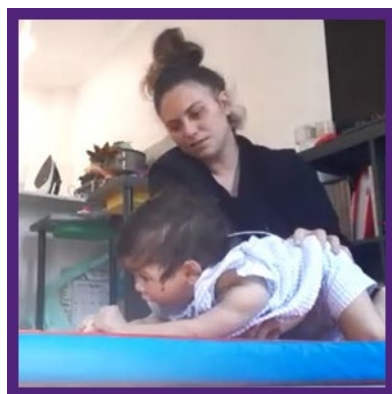
Over the past year, the LEAP study has continued to make significant strides in engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in early childhood development research. The team across Queensland and newly initiated site in the Northern Territory have screened 218 infants for likelihood of a neurodevelopmental disability, with 51 infants identified as eligible for the trial of the LEAP Family Support Program. This family support program now actively employs four Indigenous Family Support Workers across three partner agencies, including Queensland Health, Aboriginal Health and UQ. This dynamic team of First Nations women have engaged in an in depth 'Embedding for Mob' process facilitated by Aboriginal Researcher Maleah Carele, to

⁵ ePINO: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/epino-early-prediction-infant-neurodevelopmental-outcomes-0>

⁶ LEAP-CP Indigenous: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/Leapcpindigenous>

review the LEAP curriculum and service delivery model to ensure it is meaningful and culturally safe for our families. Leeann Mick-Ramsamy, an Aboriginal PhD scholar continues to yarn with families to develop and evaluate a culturally safe 'Baby Movement Check', which implements the gold standard tools for infant neurodevelopmental screening tested in the PhD thesis by Dr Carly Luke. Dr Luke has continued to publish papers from her PhD thesis entitled "Early Detection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants at high chance of adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes at 12 months corrected age: LEAP-CP Learning through Everyday Activities with Parent early detection study".

The LEAP program efforts have also been recognised by publication in high-ranking journals, including the world-first efficacy results from LEAP India (Benfer 2024, Pediatrics, Benfer Dev Med Child Neurology 2025). This study found that the LEAP program was effective at improving the motor skills of ambulatory children with CP. The team has presented at the Joint EACD & IAACD conference in Heidelberg, Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine in Cairns, with an invited Keynote for Dr Kath Benfer at the EACD & IAACD entitled "It takes a village: harnessing the power of communities for early intervention in hard-to-reach communities".



LEAP-CP RCT in India: The results from the initial LEAP-CP efficacy trial, led by Dr Katherine Benfer and Prof. Roslyn Boyd, in West Bengal India (screened >800 babies on GMA/HINE assessments, and 152 children were randomised to LEAP/ health advice) has been published in the prestigious journal Paediatrics (2024), and showed LEAP was effective for improving motor skills in infants with mild-moderate CP.

LEAP-CP with Born-To-Get-There: The program has been upscaled and culturally adapted for two new sites: Georgia (screened n=70, intervention n=29) and Sri Lanka (screened n=289, recruited n=39) funded under [BornToGetThere^{\[1\]}](#). The team in Georgia hosted Prof Ros Boyd for training in early intervention in May 2025.

Contact Details: LEAP Coordinator Ms Laura Purcell leapqld@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Dr Katherine Benfer, Prof. Roslyn Boyd.

Research team: Dr Carly Luke (Early Screening) and Ellena Oakes (Early Support), Leeann Mick Ramsamy (Indigenous PhD Scholar), Hannah Johnston (site lead NT Health), Gemma Nevin (co-ordinator, NT Health, Dr Simon Martin (PhD Scholar), and Kelly Paterson (Physiotherapist, NT Health)

Funding: This project is funded by EU-NHMRC Partnership Grant APP1194128, Children's Hospital Foundation, Cerebral Palsy Alliance, and Perpetual Trustees.

Publications: Benfer, K. A., et al (2024). Efficacy of Early Intervention for Infants with Cerebral Palsy in an LMIC: An RCT. *Pediatrics*, 153(4). <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2023-063854>.

Benfer, K. A., Ghosh, A. K., Chowdhury, S., Moula, G., Samanta, S., Maiti, P., Bhattacharya, A., Khan, N. Z., Whittingham, K., Ware, R. S., Morgan, C., Bandaranayake, S., Novak, I., & Boyd, R. N. (2025). Early detection of infants with neurodevelopmental concerns indicative of cerebral palsy in a lower middle-income country (India). *Dev Med Child Neurol*, 67(12), 1554-1563. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dmcn.16351>

The QEDIN⁷ network extends across Australia and with partners in Europe



In 2017, QCPRRC (funded by Advance QLD Program) partnered with keen researchers and clinicians across Queensland to successfully establish the state-wide QLD Early Detection and Intervention Network (QEDIN). Led by Professor Ros Boyd and Dr Carly Luke, coordinated by Ms Laura Purcell/ Dr Morgan Charlton and supported by our Advanced General Movements Assessors and Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination (HINE) Trainers Anya Gordon, Sarah Gibson and Chris Finn at QCPRRC. The QEDIN network currently has >320 clinical members representing all 18 HHSs across Queensland. Now in its 10th year, the network has supported the real-world implementation of the Cerebral Palsy Early Detection clinical practice guidelines across the state, providing a clear path linking medical

⁷ QEDIN-CP network: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/qedin-cp>

research, clinical workforce, enabling data transfer for screening, second opinions, clinical calibration, and fast-tracking families to available clinical trials of early intervention.

In 2025 the network was rebranded to QEDIN (Originally QEDIN-CP), representing a shift in focus to improving early identification of other neurodevelopmental disabilities and neurodiverse outcomes including autism and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, not just cerebral palsy. To date, QEDIN has trained >800 clinicians in key early screening tools, Prechtl's General Movements Assessment and the Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination (HINE) to assess 1296 referred infants across the state, with 169 infants fast-tracked to QEDIN early diagnosis and interventional clinical trial projects. QEDIN represents the largest 'at risk' infant cohort internationally, with findings presented at international conferences in 2025, generating keen interest globally. In 2025 the QEDIN network expanded to the Northern Territory commencing in Darwin and Alice Springs with NT Health, to support early screening and neonatal follow-up pathways and offer Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander families' participation in the culturally adapted LEAP (Learning through Everyday Activities with Parents) screening and early supports program. Leveraging from its success and framework establishment, QEDIN has further contributed to the national study (KiTE-CP, NHMRC Partnership Program), linking clinical and research workforce between Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria.

The QCPRRRC also serves as the Australian-arm of the BORN-TO-GET-THERE international program (supported by the European Horizon 2020 Grant), which aims to increase awareness of evidence-based guidelines for early detection, screening and intervention for infants with Cerebral Palsy. The BORN-TO-GET-THERE program implements current evidence on early detection, surveillance and intervention for infants at high risk of Cerebral Palsy (CP) by implementing the first International Clinical Practice Guidelines (Novak et al. 2017) in multiple sites in Europe (Italy, Denmark, Netherlands), in low- and middle-income countries (Georgia, Sri Lanka) and hard to reach populations in remote areas of Australia (Queensland and the Northern Territory).

Contact Details: QEDIN Coordinator, qedinpcp@uq.edu.au.

Investigators: Prof Roslyn Boyd, Dr Morgan Carlton, Dr Carly Luke, Ms Anya Gordon, Megan Kentish, Dr Lynda McNamara, Dr Priya Edwards, Dr Nicola Previtera, Dr Margot Bosanquet.

Publications:

Luke C, Bos, A. F., Jackman, M., Ware, R. S., Gordon, A., Finn, C., Baptist, D. H., Benfer, K. A., Bosanquet, M., & Boyd, R. N. Reproducibility of the Motor Optimality Score-Revised in infants with an increased risk of adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes. *Dev Med Child Neurol*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dmcn.16256>.

Luke C, Mick-Ramsamy L, Bos AF, Benfer KA, Bosanquet M, Gordon A, et al. Relationship between early infant motor repertoire and neurodevelopment on the hammersmith infant neurological examination in a developmentally vulnerable First Nations cohort. *Early Human Development*. 2024;192:106004.

Abstracts presented at Major meetings:

Carly Luke, et al. First Nations culturally-adapted early screening program predicts infant neurodevelopmental outcomes at 12 months corrected age. *International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany. Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology* 2025, 67 (S2):78.

Carly Luke, et al. Decoding Early Motor Behaviour: Infant neuromotor trajectories across evidence-based tools predict neurodevelopmental outcomes at 2 years. *International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany. Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology* 2025, 67 (S2):74.

EU Horizon 2020 & Australian NHMRC Partnerships: Born-To-Get-There

Further extending our research partnerships, the QCPRRRC and the AusCP-CTN also serves as the Australian-arm of the Born-To-Get-There international program (supported by the European Horizon 2020 Program Grant and Australian NHMRC EU Partnerships Grant), which aims to increase awareness of evidence-based guidelines for early detection, surveillance and early intervention for infants with Cerebral Palsy.



The Born-To-Get-There program has implemented current evidence on early detection, surveillance and intervention for infants at high risk of Cerebral Palsy (CP) by implementing the first International Clinical Practice Guidelines (Novak et al. 2017) in multiple sites in Europe (Italy, Denmark, Netherlands), in low- and middle-income countries (Georgia, Sri-Lanka) and hard to reach populations (Queensland and remote

Australia). International program teams from Italy, Holland, Denmark, Georgia, and Sri Lanka, were awarded Euro 3.5M to deliver this program. In conjunction, Prof. Ros Boyd and Dr Kath Benfer were awarded A\$0.5M from the NHMRC, serving as the Australian-arm of the program to conduct and implement the research in QLD and remote Australia. Specifically, the team will improve maternal and infant health through the following three specific aims.

- Improve health programs for the early detection (ED) of CP, thereby reducing the age at diagnosis and age at referral to CP-specific early intervention programs
- Improve health programs for the early surveillance (ES) of associated impairments and functional limitations in infants with CP and mental health of their parents, thereby fostering individualised early intervention delivery and prevention of secondary complications for infants, and provision of support for their parents.
- Improve health programs of early intervention (EI) in infants with CP, thereby improving the outcomes of the infants (motor, cognitive and social-emotional development) and of their caregivers (mental health).

A final 2-day meeting in Tiblisi was attended by >500 clinicians, parents and stakeholders including the Georgian Minister of Health and a Georgian Member of Parliament who herself is the mother of a child who had a neonatal Stroke. The 2-day program highlighted the tremendous impact the program has had on families at all study sites including Georgia, Sri Lanka and Australia, offering evidence-based surveillance and implementation of evidence based early intervention.

DRIVE CP CRE - Directing Research In Very Early Cerebral Palsy

Our NHMRC funded Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) DRIVE CP (Directing Research In Very Early Cerebral Palsy) (AUD2.5Million, 2022-2027) is leveraging the foundational work of our previous CRE AusCP-CTN, to further reduce severity of CP with the ultimate aim of full participation in society for people with CP.

DRIVE CP CRE unites leading researchers in CP, including the top 3 CP experts worldwide with seven CIs in the top 40 globally (Expertscape: CIs Boyd #1, Novak #2, Badawi #3, Morgan #15; Spittle #23; Sakzewski #29, Fahey #38).

DRIVE CP activities were showcased at the 4th Triennial Meeting of the International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability (IAACD) and the 37th Annual Meeting of the European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD) in Heidelberg, 24-28 June 2025. As well as highlighting perspectives of those with lived experience, presentations featured DRIVE CP's progress towards earlier treatments, more accurate prediction and universal screening using AI.

DRIVE CP allocated AUD\$100,000 to training and professional development, including some small grants, to support EMCRs working in early diagnosis and early intervention in CP. Dr Romero Almeida Barata De Moraes was awarded DRIVE CP funding to continue his Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Deakin University, to advance AI in Universal Screening.

DRIVE CP supported the following randomised controlled trials; the VIP Trial (Very early Intervention in Preterm babies), Early Comms Trial (Early Communications in CP), and the TRANSMIT Trial (A multi-faceted knowledge TRANslation Strategy iMprovlng funcTion in children and youth with cerebral palsy) which are currently recruiting. Other DRIVE CP funded studies including the Wearable Infant Sensor Enabled (WISE) at Home study, and iASSESS studies are also progressing well.

DRIVE CP research activities have a strong emphasis on co-design and extensive engagement from the onset with our partners with lived experience of CP. One example is this training video, which was developed as part of the VIP trial. The aim of the video is to support healthcare professionals in their initial conversations with parents in the early days of caring for an infant with CP. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPd_S9kLRaE

Investigators: Prof Iona Novak, Prof Roslyn Boyd, A/Prof Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Dana Bradford, Prof Michael Fahey CIF, Prof Nadia Badawi, A/Prof Tracy Comans, Dr Catherine Morgan, Prof Alicia Spittle, Prof Svetha Venkatesh.

Funding: This project is funded by NHMRC Centre of Excellence (APP2015843) A\$ 2.5M. Managed by the University of Sydney.

VISIBLE⁸: Vision intervention for Seeing Impaired Babies through Learning and Enrichment



Visual impairment is prevalent in 40-50% of children with cerebral palsy (CP), often due to neurological impairments rather than ocular lesions. In about 10% of cases, the condition is severe. Despite its prevalence, vision difficulties are frequently overlooked, highlighting the urgent need for evidence-based interventions for infants with cerebral visual impairment (CVI).

The VISIBLE study is a world-first multisite randomised controlled trial (RCT) that focuses on an early vision-aware and parent-directed environmental enrichment program. The study assessed the feasibility, acceptability, and efficacy of the VISIBLE program in improving visual function, developmental outcomes, and parent-infant emotional and relational development

compared to standard care. Developmental therapists provide parent training, information, and demonstration of appropriate activities for the child either in the family home or via telehealth. Children are then assessed at 12 months corrected age (C.A) on a range of measures including vision, cognitive and motor outcomes. A series of nine parent booklets were designed and given to parents in the VISIBLE group to provide information based on the needs of the infant and the family. Recruitment concluded in 2024, successfully enrolling 45 children: 14 in QLD, 6 in WA, 11 in PISA, 7 in Georgia EU, and 7 in Cincinnati, USA.

Our preliminary study findings were presented at the International IAACD meeting in Heidelberg in June, 2025 and the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AAPDM) for their 79th Annual Meeting in October 2025 generating considerable interest.

Contact Details: Prof Roslyn Boyd, VISIBLE CIA, E: r.boyd@uq.edu.au, gedincp@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Andrea Guzzetta, Dr Alison Salt, Prof. Catherine Elliott, Prof. Glen Gole, Dr Swetha Philip, Prof. Nadia Badawi, Prof. Stephen Rose, Dr Jurgen Fripp, Dr Kerstin Pannek, Dr Nana Tashivilli, Dr Ana Bedosivilli, Dr Terry Swartz, Dr Karen Harpster.

Funding: Cerebral Palsy Alliance grant PG15717 (2018-2022) \$172,730, Child Health QLD Foundation

Free paper abstracts: Andrea Guzzetta, et al. Vision intervention for seeing impaired babies: Learning through enrichment – A pilot RCT. International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany. Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology 2025, 67 (S2):50.

ENACT⁹: ENvironmental enrichment for infants; parenting with ACT- an innovative intervention for infants with higher likelihood of being Autistic.

Autism is a complex neurodevelopmental condition characterized by difficulties in social communication and the presence of repetitive and restricted interests and activities. Research indicates that infants with a first-degree autistic relative have a higher likelihood of being autistic themselves.

Our team is evaluating the efficacy of ENACT, an innovative early parenting program designed for parents of infants at elevated risk of autism. The program aims to support parents' mental health during pregnancy and postnatally, and to foster early back-and-forth social interactions with their baby from the first weeks of life. This approach helps parents build confidence in reading and responding to their baby's cues, laying a crucial foundation for the child's development.

Recruitment and Methodology: We have recruited mothers and families early, from pregnancy up to 7 weeks of age. In this randomized controlled trial, families were randomly assigned to either receive the ENACT intervention or usual care. The ENACT program combines mental health support for parents with a social reciprocity intervention for babies, focusing on parents adapting to their baby's pace and style. Families in the intervention group received access to an e-course, ENACT101, on the edX platform, and clinical telehealth consultations via Zoom with Dr. Jacqui Barfoot. All participating families received developmental reports from our developmental pediatrician, Dr. Andrea McGlade, following the 12-month assessment.

Participation Criteria: To participate, infants needed to have a first-degree autistic relative (parent or sibling). We have successfully recruited 52 families from Queensland, Newcastle, Melbourne, and Darwin. Recruitment

⁸ VISIBLE: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/visible-vision-intervention-seeing-impaired-babies-learning-through-enrichment-0>

⁹ ENACT: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/enact>

closed in October 2024, and data collection will concluded in December 2025. This study represents a significant step towards understanding and supporting the early development of infants at risk of autism, with a focus on enhancing parental mental health and fostering early social interactions.

Contact Details: Study Coordinator ugenact@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Dr Koa Whittingham, Dr Andrea McGlade, Dr Kavi Kulasinghe, Dr Amy Mitchell, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, A/Prof. Honey Heussler.

Research Team: Dr Jacqui Barfoot

Funding: UQ Graduate School Scholarships for Dr Andrea McGlade and Dr Kavindri Kulasinghe.

Publications: Whittingham, K. et al (2020). *BMJ Open*, 10(8), e034315. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2019-034315>

Neurorehabilitation

Promoting Physical activity, therapy and gross motor skills for children

ACTIVE STRIDES-CP¹⁰: Randomized trial of intensive rehabilitation (combined intensive gait and cycling training) for children with moderate to severe bilateral cerebral palsy.



Active Strides-CP is an innovative physiotherapy program designed to improve body functions, activity, and participation outcomes for children with moderate to severe bilateral cerebral palsy (CP). This study aims to compare the effectiveness of Active Strides-CP to usual care in a large, multi-site, randomized waitlist-controlled trial.

For children with moderate to severe bilateral CP who are marginally ambulant, gross motor capacity typically peaks between 6-7 years of age, followed by a clinical decline that affects their ability to engage in health-enhancing physical activity.

Study Design and Recruitment: We aim to recruit 150 children with bilateral CP, aged 5-15 years, classified in GMFCS levels III and IV. Participants will be stratified by GMFCS level, age bands (5-10 years; 11-15 years), and trial site, then randomized to receive either:

- Active Strides-CP: 8 weeks of therapy, twice weekly for 1.5 hours in clinic, plus 2-4 fortnightly home visits or remote telehealth sessions (total of 8 sessions, 32 hours).

- Usual Care

Active Strides-CP Components: The program includes Functional Electrical Stimulation Cycling, Partial Body Weight Support Treadmill Training, overground walking, adapted community cycling, and goal-directed training.

Outcome Measures: Outcomes are assessed at baseline, immediately post-intervention (9 weeks), and at 26 weeks post-baseline to evaluate the retention of treatment effects. The primary outcome is the Gross Motor Function Measure-66. Secondary outcomes include habitual physical activity, cardiorespiratory fitness, walking speed and distance, community participation, mobility, goal attainment, healthcare use, and quality of life.

Study Sites: The study is being conducted at five sites in Australia: Queensland Children's Hospital, Health Strides Foundation in Perth, Royal Children's Hospital, and Monash Health in Victoria. To date, we have recruited 45 children, with 23 allocated to the Active Strides group and 22 to the waitlist group. Of these, 20 children from the waitlist group have completed Active Strides. Overall, 41 children have completed the study, and 4 are still participating. A new site will commence in 2026 at the KK Womens's and Children's Hospital in Singapore.

This study represents a significant effort to enhance the physical health and quality of life for children with bilateral CP through targeted physiotherapy interventions.

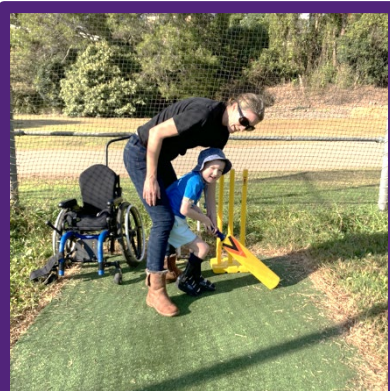
Contact details: Study Co-ordinator Dr Pam Gabrovská activestrides@uq.edu.au

Investigators: Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Dayna Pool, Dr Ellen Armstrong, Dr Sarah E Reedman, Prof. Roslyn N Boyd, Prof Catherine Elliott, Iona Novak, Prof. Stewart G. Trost, Robert S Ware, Prof. Tracy Comans, Dr Rachel Toovey, Mark Peterson, Megan Kentish, Dr Sean A Horan, Prof Jane Valentine, Dr Sian Williams.

Funding: this study is supported by a National Health and Medical Research Council Clinical Trials and Cohort Study grant (NHMRC 2006867)

¹⁰ Active Strides: <https://qcprc.centre.uq.edu.au/ActiveStrides>

Active Start Active Future¹¹: an early intervention targeting physical activity participation and sedentary behaviour in young children with cerebral palsy.



Testimonial:

"The were wonderful in coming up with ideas and opportunities to try and supported him with initial sessions. My son is now playing all abilities footy and Para Squad on a weekly basis and has also improved his swimming skills as they supported his swimming teacher on how to best support him in the water." Parent of Participant

Active Start Active Future aims to increase physical activity participation in young children with cerebral palsy by empowering parents who are key to making family lifestyle changes. Active Start Active Future has recruited 29 children with CP (3-7 years), classified in GMFCS levels II-V randomised to receive either (i) Active Start Active Future, an 8-week intervention for 1 hour per week in any setting or (ii) usual care followed by delayed intervention. Active Start Active Future has been delivered across the Sunshine Coast to Gold Coast in families' homes and communities. Families have chosen diverse goals including swimming, cycling, playground play, cricket, table tennis, footy, dance and touch rugby. Children and their parents supporting the physical activity participation attained their goals and sustained higher levels of participation six months after the intervention. The intervention reduced barriers to participation and helped improve parents wellbeing six months following Active Start Active Future. No change in physical activity levels were found for the children. We hope to continue this work by incorporating siblings and parents into a 'whole of family' approach to participation in physical activity and promotion of well-being.

Project Contact: Dr Gaela Kilgour, g.kilgour@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Dr Gaela Kilgour, Dr Sarah Reedman, A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Emma Beckman, Prof. Roslyn Boyd.

Publications: Kilgour, G. et al, (2025). *BMJ Open*, 15(5), e087697. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2024-087697>

Reedman SE, et al, (2025). *Phys Occup Ther Pediatr*. 2025;45(5):745-768. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01942638.2025.2506061> Run 4 Health: Frame Running¹²

Frame Running (formerly Race Running) is a sport designed specifically for people who are not able to run due to severe motor and coordination impairments. A specialized running frame with low rolling resistance allows athletes with high support needs to run easily over ground. We know that weight bearing exercise is important for improving muscle strength and bone mineral density, the supported position on a Frame Runner allows athletes to engage in moderate to high intensity physical activity.

Run4Health is a multi-site trial that was conceived and developed by Dr Sarah Reedman (Post doctoral fellow at the QCPRRC). Dr Reedman recognised Frame Running as a potential means to improve poor cardiovascular health in young people with CP, which is linked to high rates of morbidity and mortality in adults with CP. Following the successful recruitment of 12 participants across three sites (Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Cairns), the Run4Health team then secured a highly competitive Early to Mid-Career Researchers grant from Medical Research Futures Fund (MRFF) to expand the study. Additional funding allowed for the inclusion of three new training sites (Toowoomba, Perth and Gold Coast) and additional outcome measures, based on feedback from the Run4Health consumer group. The expanded study is investigating the effects of frame running on aerobic capacity, bone mineral density, sleep, pain and gross motor function in young people with CP and similar neurological conditions.

Testimonial:

"His respiratory changed, his sleep pattern changed. He did it for up to an hour, twice a week. He never stopped. He never had a break... He just enjoyed it. If we could do that twice a week for the rest of his life. I would do it in a heartbeat. It was, my word, would be life changing, absolutely. Life changing."

Parent of Participant

¹¹ Active Start: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/active-start-active-future-early-intervention-targeting-physical-activity-participation-and-sedentary-behaviour-young-children-cerebral-palsy>

¹² Run4Health: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/run4health-cp>



The **Run4Health team** are collaborating with partner organisations, such as Dejay Medical, World Ability sport and Little Athletics Australia, and Now I Can Run. These organisations provide the invaluable experience required to translate study findings and improve the accessibility, quality and sustainability of frame running opportunities for young people. The research team has also worked to raise the profile of Frame Running as a potential therapy within professional networks. In 2025, Dr Sarah Reedman discussed frame running with clinicians at the Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AusACPM) conference in Cairns. Dr Sarah Reedman has presented to cohorts of international researchers including to a team of Frame Running researchers at the Karolinska institute in Stockholm. The research team has also worked to

raise the profile of Frame Running as a potential therapy within professional networks. In March 2026, Dr Reedman will present the work of honours Occupational Therapy student Samantha King on the validity and responsiveness of two new activity limitation tests to support Frame Running classification at the Oceania Academy of Cerebral Palsy and other Childhood-onset Disabilities Conference in Hobart, Australia. In September 2026, Dr Reedman will present the primary study outcomes at the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine Meeting in Philadelphia, USA. This presentation has been nominated for the prestigious Gayle G. Arnold award recognising its position among the top 10 papers submitted to the conference.

Our lived experience reference group has been active recently with contributions from young people Finley Coll, Max Bailey-Jensen and parent Yvette Pollock who are helping to shape our translational materials. In late April 2026, they will be headed down to the UQ St Lucia track to film some exciting video content that will be produced to help young people, parents, therapists and community coaches support implementation of Frame Running. The MRFF-funded Run4Health trial has concluded recruitment at all sites with n=59 consented, n=41 randomized with 93% retention to T2 and 80% retention to T3. Project Contact: Study Coordinator Mr Edward Hayes-Woods, run4healthcp@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Dr Sarah Reedman, A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Stina Oftedal, Dr Matthew Ahmadi, Dr Ellen Armstrong, Dr Andrea Burgess, Dr Tamara Blake, Dr Syed Afroz Keramat, Dr Iain Dutia, Dr Dayna Pool, Prof. Cathie Sherrington, Ms Lynda McNamara, Ms Kerry West, Dr Emma Beckman, Prof. Roslyn Boyd.

Funding: This project is funded by the NHMRC Medical Research Future Fund (2022624).

Publications: Reedman, S. E. et al, (2022). *BMJ Open*, 12(4), e057668-e057668. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2021-057668>

PARTICIPATE-CP: Optimising participation in physically active leisure for children with cerebral palsy: A randomised controlled trial.

Most Australian children do not get enough physical activity each day for growth and healthy development. In the recent 2018 Active Healthy Kids Australia Physical Activity Report Card, Australia scored a D- for overall physical activity level, placing us in a tie for 32nd place out of 49 participating countries. Children with cerebral palsy (CP) are particularly at risk for low levels of physical activity and low rates of participation in community sports and physical recreation. Effective ways to promote physical activity in children with CP are desperately needed. We have developed Participate-CP, a model of participation-focused therapy to promote participation in physical activities has been developed to respond to this emerging problem. Participate-CP recognizes the role of environmental factors in restricting participation for youth with disabilities. We have tested Participate-CP in a large phase III multi-site randomised controlled trial across metropolitan (Brisbane, Sydney and Perth) and regional (Cairns, Newcastle) sites in Australia and Auckland in New Zealand. This is the only randomised controlled trial of a participation focused intervention that has been conducted worldwide. We recruited 110 children with CP, average age 10.4 years, who were randomised to receive Participate-CP (n=56) or to usual care (n=54). The usual care group were able to receive Participate-CP after a 6-month waitlist period. We found that Participate-CP led to greater changes in perceived performance of participation goals, fewer barriers to participation, expected goal attainment and greater frequency of community participation. We have published the results of the primary outcomes paper (see below). We have presented the results of Participate-CP at National and International conferences and conducted a number of instructional workshops including at the

Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, European Academy of Childhood Disability and American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine. The abstract at the AACPDM was nominated as one of the top 10 for the prestigious Gayle Arnold Award for best paper.

Contact details: Study Coordinator Dr Pam Gabrovska participate.qcprcc@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Prof. Catherine Elliott, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Jenny Ziviani, Prof. Iona Novak, Prof. Stewart Trost, Prof. Annette Majnemer.

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council project grant (1140756).

Publications: Sakzewski, L. et al, (2023). *BMJ Open*, 13(10), e075570-e075570. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2023-075570>

HABIT-ILE & Pre-school HABIT-ILE: A randomised trial of Hand Arm Bimanual Intensive Training Including Lower Extremity training for children with bilateral cerebral palsy.



HABIT-ILE & Pre-school HABIT-ILE: A randomised trial of Hand Arm Bimanual Intensive Training Including Lower Extremity training for children with bilateral cerebral palsy.

There has been a paucity of evidence for effective interventions to improve motor outcomes for children with bilateral CP. We have a new motor learning approach that integrates an intensive model of bilateral upper limb and lower extremity training (Hand Arm Bimanual Training + Intensive Lower Extremity: HABIT-ILE) which has been pilot tested with strong effects to improve manual ability and gross motor function. HABIT-ILE is delivered using a “day camp” model with groups of up to 12 children with bilateral CP. We have conducted a pragmatic, single-blind randomised controlled trial (RCT) for children with

bilateral CP to evaluate the effects of HABIT-ILE versus usual care on manual ability and gross motor function immediately post intervention. Secondary outcomes were neuroplasticity changes in brain structural integrity plus functional and structural connectivity. Other secondary outcomes included walking endurance, self-care, mobility, performance of and satisfaction with individualized goals, and quality of life immediately post intervention and retention at 26 weeks after the intervention. Participants were recruited across the three sites (Brisbane, Sydney, and Perth). Recruitment for the study was finalised at 90 children with CP across the three sites. We found HABIT-ILE compared to the control group led to greater changes in manual ability, goal performance, and self-care, but there were no differences for gross motor function or walking efficiency. The HABIT-ILE outcomes paper has been published (see below). Results were presented as an oral presentation at the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, at the European Academy of Childhood Disability and Australian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine.

The Preschool HABIT-ILE (Hand-Arm Bimanual Intensive Therapy Including Lower Extremities) project completed data collection in December 2024. Data cleaning and analyses were in process in 2025, with aim for publication in 2025/2026. In total, 28 children were recruited and randomised to receive Preschool HABIT-ILE (n=16) or usual care (12). After a 6-month waitlist period, the usual care group went on to complete the Preschool HABIT-ILE intervention (n=12). Approximately 105 physiotherapy and occupational therapy student volunteers were trained to assist in the research project performing intervention (under supervision and according to the intervention protocol), safety personnel or data recording.

In 2025, preliminary data was presented in two free papers at the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine in New Orleans in October 2025.

1) “Efficacy of HABIT-ILE in children 2-5 years with bilateral Cerebral Palsy” (Burgess, McLeod, Reedman, Hermith-Ramirez, Bleyeneuft, Boyd, Sakzewski) and 2) Preschool HABIT-ILE: best responders of of intensive motor training in young children with bilateral cerebral palsy (McLeod, Reedman, Burgess, Boyd, Sakzewski).

Contact Details: Study Coordinator Sarah Goodman s.goodman@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Yannick Bleyenheuft, Prof. Iona Novak, Prof. Catherine Elliott, Dr Nicholas Dowson, Dr Cath Morgan, Dr Kerstin Pannek.

Research team: Dr Andrea Burgess, PhD OT. E: a.burgess@uq.edu.au

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council project grant (1144846); Ramaciotti Health Investment Grants, (2020-2022).

Publications: Sakzewski, L et al., (2021)*BMJ Open*, 11(3), 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-041542>

Sakzewski, L. et al, (2025). *J of Pediatrics* 284. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2025.114666>

Parenting, wellbeing and social skills interventions

Improving wellbeing & social skills for children and their families

PEERS® Plus¹³: A mixed methods randomised trial of the Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®) for Primary and Early High School children with acquired brain injury and cerebral palsy.

PEERS Plus is a study for primary school-aged children with acquired brain injury and cerebral palsy. It aims to determine if PEERS Plus, a novel creative and performing arts-based social skills program based on PEERS® (Program for the Education in Enrichment of Relational Skills), improves the social competency of primary school-aged children with brain injury. Primary school-aged children participate in a 90 min weekly session for 12 weeks, while their caregiver attends a separate parent group designed to enhance social coaching. At three time points (i.e., before commencing group sessions, midway, and on program conclusion), each primary school-aged child and their caregiver take part in a 60 min occupational therapy session where they are provided with the opportunity to collaboratively set and review meaningful and individualised 'social goals' they wish to achieve through their involvement. Primary school-aged children and their caregiver work together to complete homework missions each week to aid goal attainment and encourage the skills they have learnt in the group to be carried over to their home, school, and community environments. 7 children were recruited in the first cohort. In total, 16 children have been recruited in two cohorts. Two intervention groups and two waitlist groups have been completed. Data collection is now complete and analysis is underway.



Testimonial:

"Our daughter got a lot of confidence from doing this and she went from hiding on her iPad when we went camping to engaging every adult, finding what they've been doing, what they do for work, asking them questions, same with every child, inviting them over to the van, talking to people in class which she never used to do, she used to be a quiet shy mouse. She has stepped out of her comfort zone. It's actually amazing to see her want to talk to people and be keen and eager" Parent of Participant

This program will contribute to research evidence for how to improve social functioning in primary school-aged children with brain injuries.

Bianca Thompson has joined QCPRC taking on the Peers for Primary school aged children in her PhD project. Professionally trained as an Occupational Therapist, Bianca is passionate about working with children and young people to ensure their fundamental right to participation and inclusion ensues. Bianca's PhD will focus on developing a novel creative and performing arts-based social skills intervention that aims to improve the social competency of primary school-aged children with cerebral palsy and acquired brain injury. Bianca is supervised by a team of highly experienced researchers, including A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski and Dr Jacqui Barfoot.

Contact details: Study coordinator Sarah Goodman, E: s.goodman@uq.edu.au

Investigators: A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Rosemary Gilmore, Nicola Hilton, Megan Kentish, Prof. Roslyn Boyd.

Funding: This study is supported by a project grant from the National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland (NIISQ).

Publications: Gilmore, R. et al, (2024). *Disabil Rehabil*, 46(3), 515-523. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09638288.2023.2167008>

Thompson, B. et al (2025). *BMJ Open*, 15(1), e095354. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2024-095354>

¹³ PEERS Plus: <https://qcprc.centre.uq.edu.au/PEERSPlus>

PEERS Telehealth¹⁴: Mixed methods RCT of telehealth program for the education and enrichment of relational skills (PEERS®) for teens with brain injuries

Testimonial:

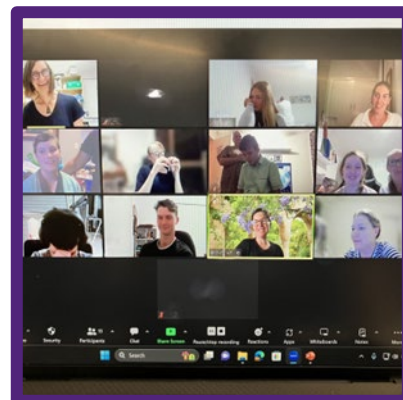
"I knew they were going to get something out of it, but I didn't know that I was going to get so much out of it, too." [M5]

"I really hope more kids and families get this opportunity because it is incredibly special." [M4]

This mixed methods RCT of telehealth PEERS® for teens aims to test the effectiveness, acceptability and feasibility of a telehealth group delivered Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®) for high-school aged teenagers aged 11–17 years with acquired brain injury (ABI) or cerebral palsy (CP). In this pilot randomised controlled trial, we recruited 24 teenagers with brain injuries and their caregivers across Queensland and randomise them to receive telehealth PEERS® or be waitlisted for 6 months. Telehealth PEERS® for teens will be run for groups of 8 youths and their caregivers. Outcomes will be measured before the intervention, after the telehealth PEERS® for teens program, and then 3 months later (6 months post baseline) and 9 months later (12 months post

baseline). Focus groups using semi-structured interviews will be conducted separately with teens and caregivers at the end of the program to explore experiences of participation in telehealth PEERS® for teens. A range of process related outcomes (e.g., attendance rates, adherence to homework, "issues register") will be collected to understand potential barriers and facilitators to implementation of the program in clinical practice. We anticipate that youth with brain injuries who complete telehealth PEERS® for teens will have improved confidence in social situations and develop skills to make and keep friends with an overarching positive impact on quality of life. Importantly, we anticipate that caregivers will develop the skills to coach their teen in challenging social situations, and these skills will enable sustainability of outcomes of this intervention in the longer term.

Telehealth PEERS® comprises 14 weekly sessions of 90-minute duration (45 minutes PEERS®, 15 minutes break, 30 minutes PEERS®). A concurrent parent group is run in a different virtual zoom room. The parent group run for 1 hour, in order to allow parents time to support their child to set up and join the teen group. Telehealth PEERS® will be delivered using zoom, with breakout rooms for smaller within group activities. Three individual sessions will be offered to each child-caregiver dyad. The first individual session focuses on collaborative goal setting of 2-3 social participation goals. A further two sessions are offered around the mid and endpoint of the program. Timing of individual sessions are flexible and reflect the needs of families. The commercially available PEERS treatment manual includes topics such as conversational skills, electronic communication, choosing appropriate friends, using humour, entering and exiting conversations, hosting and attending get-togethers, good sportsmanship, handling teasing and embarrassing feedback and bullying, changing a bad reputation and handling disagreements, rumours, and gossip. Each adolescent session includes a homework review, didactic lesson with modelling, role playing, and behavioural rehearsal and socialization activities. The caregiver group comprises problem-solving regarding social coaching of adolescents, review of adolescents' didactic lessons for the week, and homework assignment. A total of 27 teens were recruited and randomised into two cohorts. Two additional participants completed the intervention but were not randomised. Two intervention groups and two waitlist groups were completed. Data collection is now complete, and data analysis is underway. An abstract was submitted for the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine and was presented late 2025. This paper was nominated as one of the top 10 best abstracts for consideration for the prestigious Gayle Arnold Award.



Contact details: Study coordinator Sarah Goodman, E: s.goodman@uq.edu.au

Investigators: A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Rosemary Gilmore, Nicola Hilton, Megan Kentish, Prof. Roslyn Boyd.

Funding: This study is supported by a project grant from the National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland (NIISQ).

Publications: Sakzewski, L. et al, (2025). *BMJ Open*, 15(2), e081843. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2023-081843>

¹⁴ PEERS Telehealth: <https://qcprc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/peers-telehealth-helping-teens-acquired-brain-injury-and-cerebral-palsy-improve-social-skills>

PACT-Online¹⁵: Randomised Trial of Parenting Acceptance and Commitment therapy for Parents of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities

PACT-Online: Randomised Trial of Parenting Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Parents of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities.



Leveraging from the achievements of PACT and Early PACT, Dr Koa Whittingham and the team have been further awarded \$1.45M from a NHMRC MRFF Clinician Researchers grant early in 2023 to conduct a wider RCT of the updated PACT Online program. The newly launched PACT Online project is a four-year Australia-wide Hybrid randomised controlled trial focussing on both effectiveness and implementation, with 300 families of children aged 0-10 years diagnosed with, or at increased likelihood of, neurodevelopmental disabilities (including cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual impairment, and foetal alcohol spectrum disorder) and/or developmental delay.

The RCT will assess the impact of PACT Online on the parent-child relationship (emotional availability), parenting, parent and child health, adjustment and wellbeing, and parent and child regulatory abilities as measured by heart rate variability. Implementation will be examined grounded in the consolidated framework for implementation research (CFIR) and through qualitative interviews with parents, preparing PACT for broader translation.

Recruitment launched in 2024 and strong demand has been sustained over time, with a total of 542 expressions of interest received from families (241 in 2024 and a further 311 in 2025). Since recruitment commenced, 194 families have enrolled in the study, including 114 families who enrolled in 2025. To date, 84 families have completed the PACT Online intervention, which includes both self-paced online modules and one-on-one telehealth sessions with a therapist. In 2025, 19 therapists were trained in and delivered the PACT Online program. As part of the program evaluation, qualitative interviews were conducted with 18 families to gather feedback on their experiences of participating in PACT Online. Feedback from families who have completed the program to date has been positive, with families reporting progress on parent selected child, parenting, and self-care goals. Contact details: Dr Grace Kirby (Study Coordinator) pactonline@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Dr Koa Whittingham, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Iona Novak, Dr Amy Mitchell, Dr Natasha Reid, Dr Syed Afroz Keramat, A/Prof Kristelle Hudry, A/Prof Josephine Barbaro, Dr Jacqui Barfoot.

Research Team: Dr Grace Kirby, Dr Jaqui Barfoot

Funding: This work is supported by an NHMRC MRFF Clinician Researchers – Nurses Midwives and Allied Health Grant (2023688) \$1,458,919.95 (2023-2026)

¹⁵ PACT Online: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/supportforparentspact>

Translational research

Practical approaches to research for children with cerebral palsy

CP-KASP (Cerebral Palsy Knowledge, Advocacy Skills, and Support Program): co-designed with families to optimise evidence-based support through the NDIS.

Testimonial:

"I would like to assist other families to access services without the difficulty I experienced. I had to advocate very hard to get support and there was no useful guidance on processes." Caregiver co-designer

Parents have expressed the need for advocacy skills and a deeper understanding of evidence-based therapies to navigate the NDIS system effectively. With 186 available therapies and over 1,000 service providers, making informed choices can be overwhelming.

Launched in 2024, CP-KASP is a groundbreaking, web-based, multi-component platform co-designed with individuals who have lived experience of CP or CP-like condition, alongside allied health professionals. This peer-driven and peer-led initiative aims to fill the gap in capacity-building programs

for parents of children with cerebral palsy and similar conditions. CP-KASP will be developed, tested, and implemented with families during the early years to enhance their knowledge and skills. The platform will empower parents to navigate the NDIS, advocate effectively for their child and family, and create evidence-informed management plans to ensure timely and appropriate interventions. We have successfully recruited members for our consumer advisory and co-design groups. Focus groups to develop platform content were completed in 2025 and the platform is under development and review. The first 30 parent participants will be recruited in May-June and will pilot program facilitated by parent peer Dr Fiona Russo from late July 2026. This project has significant community leadership in the research team (n=5), community advisory group (n=10), and community co-designers (n=10 parents, n=10 therapists). Many of the community members have additionally provided their family and professional stories and media for use in the program, which was highlighted by the co-design team as a 'must have' inclusion.

Testimonial:

"It's important more than ever for families to get 'bang for their buck' in their NDIS packages. Families are often navigating not only a new health diagnosis but also the health system and disability system at a time when they are likely grieving and needing support themselves" OT co-designer

Contact details: Study Coordinator Dr Pam Gabrovska, p.gabrovska@uq.edu.au, and Project Officer Mrs Amanda Clayton (consumer), amanda.clayton@unisq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: A/Prof Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Fiona Russo (consumer), Prof Roslyn Boyd, Dr Koa Whittingham, Dr Shaneen Leishman (consumer), Dr Andrea Burgess, Dr Katherine Benfer, Dr Zephania Tyack, A/Prof Jodie Copley, Prof Robert Ware, Dr Sarah McIntyre

Associate Investigator: Dr Syed Afroz Keramat (Health Economist)

Post-doctoral Fellow: Dr Elloise Hummell (consumer)

Funding: This project is funded by MRFF consumer-led research grant (APP 2028202)

TRANSMIT - TRANslation Strategy iMproving funcTion

Significant progress was made in 2025 on our NHMRC Partnerships Project Grant (\$1.42Million; 2022-2027) TRANSMIT: a multifaceted knowledge TRANslation Strategy iMproving funcTion in children and youth with cerebral palsy. This study aims to improve health literacy and outcomes using a comprehensive knowledge translation (KT) strategy to close the research to practice gap. In partnership with families, clinicians, and NDIS policymakers, an extensive co-design process was undertaken to build our prototype mobile Health (mHealth) app, officially named cpThrive by our Research Partners with lived experience. cpThrive curates and filters biomedical research findings—such as clinical practice guidelines and intervention effectiveness data—to match individual child goals and family priorities. cpThrive aims to improve functional outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and empower people in self-management. cpThrive was nominated as a finalist for a prestigious 2025 iAward for tech innovation. An international video crowdsourcing project saw a collaboration from six countries, with a total of 411 videos shared. A clinical trial evaluating cpThrive is underway, with the aim of recruiting 600 Australian families by March 2027. Research findings have been disseminated to date through thirteen conference presentations in Germany, The Netherlands and Australia.

Investigators: Prof Iona Novak, Prof Nadia Badawi, Dr Catherine Morgan, A/Prof Leanne Sakzewski, Prof Roslyn Boyd, Prof Michael Fahey, Prof Joshua Burns, Dr Michelle Jackman, Dr Dana Bradford, Prof Maria McNamara

Funding: This project is funded by NHMRC Partnership Project Grant (APP2015018). Managed by University of Sydney

KiTE CP¹⁶: Early identification of infants with cerebral palsy: implementation study.

The aim of KiTE CP is for the implementation of early identification and diagnosis of infants who have cerebral palsy (CP) or who are at high-risk of CP by six months-of-age. Infants born extremely preterm (gestational age <28 weeks), extremely low birthweight (birth weight <1000 g) or have neonatal encephalopathy or neurological risk factors (e.g. congenital disabilities, seizures, stroke) were recruited in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Infants are assessed in the first six months of life and then again at 2-years corrected age. Families completed the 2-year assessment with researchers over the phone, which has avoided the necessity of a clinic or home visit during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Queensland, recruitment commenced in June 2020 and concluded in December 2024 at Queensland Children's Hospital and Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital) using the 'Early detection of infants at risk or with cerebral palsy: QLD Clinical network (QEDIN-CP)' to help identify eligible infants. Recruitment in Queensland was expanded to Townsville and Cairns, with 194 infants enrolled in the KiTE-CP study in Queensland (597 recruited Australia-wide). The final the 2-year follow-up interviews were completed in July 2023. It is anticipated that KiTE CP may assist in identifying CP earlier than is currently possible. Children at-risk could then receive targeted early intervention programs during critical periods of brain development, potentially improving long-term developmental outcomes. A preliminary paper on baseline data has been published in the Journal of Pediatrics. The final outcomes paper was published below.

Contact Details: QEDIN Clinical Coordinator, QCPRRC@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Prof. Alicia Spittle, Prof. Iona Novak, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Dr Cathy Morgan, Prof. Paul Scuffham, Prof. Russell Dale, Prof. Paul Colditz, Prof. Michael Fahey, Prof. Rodney Hunt, Dr Kerstin Pannek

Funding: This project is funded by NHMRC partnership grant (APP158200)

Publications: Kwong, A. K. L. et al, (2024). *The Journal of Pediatrics*, 268. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2024.113949>

Kwong, A.K. et al, (2025). *Archives of Disease in Childhood*. 111(1), pp 76. <https://doi.org/10.1136/archdischild-2025-329242>

¹⁶ KiTE CP: <https://qcprc.centre.uq.edu.au/KiTE>

Population health

Assessing factors that influence the health of the paediatric population with cerebral palsy

School Readiness¹⁷: 4–6-year-old follow-up of randomised trials of neuroprotection and rehabilitation for children at risk of CP



In 2021, the teams at QCPRRC, Cerebral Palsy Alliance, Monash University and Perth Children's Hospital were collectively awarded \$1.44M from the Medical Research Future Fund to follow up children who participated in our early intervention clinical trials (REACH, GAME, PACT & Early PACT) and Early Neuroprotection clinical trials (Protect ME), from QLD, NSW, VIC, and WA to determine the impact on school readiness outcomes in the 'School Readiness: 4–5-year-old follow-up of Randomised Trials of Neuroprotection and Rehabilitation for Children at risk of CP' study. Recruitment commenced in February 2022. To-date, 221 children have been recruited and completed the assessments (78 in Qld, 99 in NSW, 10 in WA, 32 in Victoria and 2 at Ohio State University, USA). Study recruitment concludes at 30/5/26.

School readiness is a framework for assessing profiles of strengths and vulnerabilities of the preschool child in the context of transition to school, and includes abilities in cognition, motor, physical activity, health, language, and readiness to learn, and is strongly linked to later academic attainment. The "School Readiness study" is the first study of its kind and data obtained from this study will help to determine the impact of early intervention (<6 months old) on school readiness of children identified as being at "high risk" of cerebral palsy in infancy. Preliminary findings from the study show children at high risk of CP in infancy are on average delayed in 3.4 to 7.5 out of 12 standardised assessments of key school readiness domains at school-entry age, depending on confirmation of CP diagnosis and severity of motor impairment.

Podium presentations of these preliminary research findings have been delivered at the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology (ACPDM) in 2023 and 2024, as well as at the Australasian ACPDM in 2024 and the European Academy of Childhood-onset Disability in 2024. At these conferences, the study team have also delivered a novel workshop on school readiness assessment in children with CP. In 2024, two consumer reference groups meetings were facilitated. Consumers have provided guidance on how to approach recruitment, assessment and reporting to maximise participation and further improve participant experiences, and are now working on the most impactful way of sharing findings to advocate for increased support in the transition to school for children with CP.

Contact Details: Study Coordinator Laura Gascoigne-Pees, schoolreadiness@uq.edu.au

Chief Investigators: Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Iona Novak, Dr Catherine Morgan, A/Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, A/Prof. Michael Fahey, Prof. Robert Ware, A/Prof. Tracy Comans, Dr Koa Whittingham, Dr Kerstin Pannek

Funding: This project is funded by MRFF Maternal First 2,000 Days and Childhood Health, APP2007292

Publications: Boyd, R. N. et al, (2023). *BMJ Open*, 13(2), e068675-e068675. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2022-068675>

MRFF Australian CP Musculoskeletal Health Network¹⁸

In 2022 our team was awarded a Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF, \$2.5M 2023-2027) for the 'The Australian CP Musculoskeletal Health Network' to conduct a longitudinal follow-up of 500 children with Cerebral Palsy (Gross Motor Function Classification Level II-IV-V) who don't ambulate independently. This 5-year study is assessing the Musculoskeletal Health in children aged 4-13 years at entry across 5 sites in QLD, NSW, VIC and New Zealand (NZ). While the brain lesion in children with CP is static the musculoskeletal health can decline progressively in non-ambulant children which may lead to Hip Displacement, Scoliosis and Bone Fragility. We will evaluate annual status and development of musculoskeletal health, hip displacement, scoliosis, skeletal fragility, motor skills, nutrition and physical activity and evaluate health resource cost and consequences in children with CP. The assessments will be completed at a one-off appointment every year for

¹⁷ School Readiness: <https://qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/https%3A/qcprrc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/school-readiness>

¹⁸ AusCP-MSK: <https://cre-auscpcn.centre.uq.edu.au/AusCPMSK>

4 years. Recruitment has commenced at Queensland Children's Hospital (QLD) in February 2024 and the remaining sites were activated at the end of 2025: The Royal Children's Hospital (VIC), The Children's Hospital at Westmead (NSW), Sydney Children's Hospital (NSW) and Starship Hospital (NZ). Up till December 2025 we have recruited 56.

Contact details: Study Coordinator Sarah Gibson auscp.msk@uq.edu.au.

Chief Investigators: Prof. Craig Munns, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Peter Pivonka, Prof. Natasha Nassar, Prof. Stewart Trost, Assoc Prof. Judith Little, Assoc Prof. Kylie Tucker, Prof. Joshua Burns, Assoc Prof. Leanne Sakzewski, Dr Simon Paget, Nadia Badawi, Prof. Robert Ware, Prof. Tracy Comans, Dr Kate Willoughby, Dr Katherine Langdon

Post Doctoral Fellow: Dr Laura Bentley

Funding: This project is funded by MRFF \$2.5M 2023-2027, APP2015970

Publications: Munns, C. F. et al, (2025). *BMJ Open*, 15(4), e095526. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2024-095526>

NHMRC The Strong Families Study: a longitudinal pregnancy and birth cohort study with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Families in Queensland

The Strong Families Study (SFS) is an Indigenous-led longitudinal pregnancy and birth cohort study being co-designed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland. The study aims to follow families from pregnancy through early childhood to better understand the factors that support strong health, wellbeing, development, and culturally safe care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families. SFS has continued its steady progress throughout 2025 in preparation for the study launch in June 2026. Extensive preparation has been undertaken for the Strong Families Study through ongoing engagement with the Indigenous Steering Committee (ISC), including quarterly online meetings and a face-to-face workshop in Cairns. These consultations informed key study procedures, including Indigenous data sovereignty, capacity building, implementation evaluation, and culturally appropriate consenting processes, leading to the co-development of a Participant Information and Consent video featuring Indigenous researchers and ISC members. In parallel, the database has been finalised and is undergoing final testing and staff training, while the research team has delivered multiple in-service sessions with Mater clinical teams to introduce the study, strengthen recruitment readiness, and support implementation across participating services.

Over this past year, the SFS team have prepared manuscripts on the SFS Protocol, which was also granted ethics approval this past year, and the Process of co-design of the study with the ISC. The Protocol paper outlines the study design and key components of our research and complements the Process paper, which outlines the co-design journey led by the Indigenous Steering Committee. These two papers have been accepted for publication and will be widely circulated. The Protocol paper will be published in *BMJ Open* [2026 Q1], and the Process paper will be published in *Co-Design Journal* [2026 Q1]. All Chief Investigators and Indigenous Steering Committee members are listed as co-authors in both publications.

The SFS Research team and Senior Indigenous Research Assistant Davina Smith were recognised as finalists in the 2025 Mater People Awards. Davina was nominated for her outstanding work in advancing health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Davina leads culturally safe, community-driven research, mentors teams in cultural integrity, and shares her knowledge both locally and internationally. The Strong Families Team were nominated for their impactful research contributions. This recognition highlights our commitment to health-related innovation, high-quality research outputs, and academic leadership.

Contact details: Program Manager, Sophie Mor (indigenoushealthresearch@mater.uq.edu.au)

Chief Investigators: Prof Kym Rae, Prof Ros N Boyd, Prof Maree Toombs, Prof Rhonda Marriott, Prof Anne-Marie Eades, Prof Sandra Eades, Dr Natasha Reid, Dr Kai Wheeler, Dr Kath Benfer, Dr Koa Whittingham, A/Prof Leonie Callaway, A/Prof Robert S Ware, Prof Vicki Clifton, Dr Elizabeth Martin, Dr Paul Robinson, Prof Josephine Forbes, Prof Gurmeet Singh

SFS Research team: Dr Salma Ahmed, Dr Luciana Massi, Davina Smith, Rhiannon Friday, Samantha Jeffery, Rebecca Rooney, Sophie Mor, Loretta Weatherall, Dr Emily Dorey.

Funding: This research was funded by National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC GNT2023832), as part of the Strong Families Study. KMR is supported by funding from Mater Foundation and Equity Trustees (ANZ Queensland Community Foundation, Queensland Community Foundation–ANZ Bank Fund, Queensland Community Foundation–Thomas George Swallow Trust, and the Herbert John Hinchey Charitable Trust).

Publications: Massi L et al, (2026). *Co-Design Journal*. [in press]

Ahmed S M, et al, (2026). *BMJ Open*. [in press]

Studies Concluded

Early PACT: Parenting Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for children under 3 years of age

We know that when a likelihood of a diagnosis of CP is flagged, it is a stressful time for many families. Families have told us that they want support that is accepting, supportive and tailored to their needs. Our Early PACT study is a trial of an online support intervention grounded in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) for parents of babies and young children (<3 years) where there is high likelihood of CP.

The Early PACT content was adapted from the PACT intervention trialled with families of children (4-10 years) with CP, with input from parents of babies identified as high risk of CP to adapt the content to suit the earlier timepoint. The PACT trial showed impacts on the parent-child relationship, parental mindfulness, and child quality of life and has been published in Behaviour Research and Therapy.

The Early PACT intervention has been designed to minimise parent burden and maximise parent support. The online content includes short videos, text, online activities, moments of reflection, guided mindfulness, acceptance and compassion exercises with a moderated discussion board and participants will also receive virtual consultations with an experienced clinician. All participants will receive early PACT, either immediately or after a short delay.

Early PACT concluded recruitment in 2023 with a total number of competing participants of 54. Data analysis is currently ongoing with the goal of submission for publication by mid-2025.

Chief Investigators: Dr Koa Whittingham, Dr Jeanie Sheffield, Prof. Roslyn Boyd

Research Team: Dr Jacqui Barfoot, .

Funding: Project is part of the program for the Advance Queensland Innovation Partnership Grant (2016-2020) \$1,499,710. Cerebral Palsy Alliance Project Grant (PG11917: 2017-2022) \$91,000.

SMART - Strengthening Mental Abilities through Relational Training: A randomised controlled trial of a novel online cognitive rehabilitation program for children with cerebral palsy.

Cerebral palsy (CP) is typically associated with motor impairments, but children with cerebral palsy (CP) experience deficits in nonverbal reasoning. The SMART online cognitive intervention has been associated with gains in IQ and nonverbal IQ in previous studies in typically developing school-aged children and children experiencing educational difficulties. SMART is founded upon relational frame theory, which suggests that language and complex thinking are underpinned by our ability to understand relationships between objects, known as relational framing. If the program was found to be effective, it would allow children with CP to train relational framing ability and potentially improve complex reasoning from home.

The SMART RCT aimed to assess the efficacy, acceptability and feasibility of an online cognitive intervention in school-aged children with CP. This pilot study recruited 21 children with CP, mean age 9y 8m, who were randomised into the intervention group (n=9) or a waitlist control group. Participants were assessed on measures of intelligence, academic ability, attention and executive functioning, and social-emotional functioning at baseline, then after completing the training, or the waitlist period. Semi-structured interviews explored participants' experiences with the training. No significant effect of training was found for the primary outcome of intelligence, or for any secondary outcomes. Participants reported barriers and facilitators for accessing the program. Cognitive training programs addressing relational framing ability may require significant modifications before they can be effectively tested with children with CP.

Jane Wotherspoon is an Educational and Developmental Psychologist undertook this project for her PhD research. Jane published the study protocol in BMJ Open in June 2019, and the RCT study has been published in Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities. Jane was awarded her PhD thesis in March 2024.

Chief Investigators: Dr Koa Whittingham, Dr Jeanie Sheffield, Prof. Ros Boyd, Dr Jane Wotherspoon.

Funding: Commonwealth Research Training Program Stipend, QCPRRC living top-up scholarship. Joseph Sleight Bursary (2019)
Publications: J Wotherspoon, et al - BMJ open, 2019 - doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2018-028505; J Wotherspoon, et al. *J Dev Phys Disabil* 36, 187–202 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10882-023-09905-9>

REACH¹⁹: Rehabilitation Early for Congenital Hemiplegia

REACH was a novel multisite RCT study which recruited families from Australia (Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia) and the United States (Minnesota, Ohio and Riverside County). The aim was to compare two types of therapy, an intensive infant friendly modified Constraint Induced Movement Therapy (mCIMT) to an equally intensive approach using Bimanual Therapy (BIM). Infants with asymmetric brain lesions were recruited before the age of 9 months corrected age (c.a.) and randomised to one of the two groups. They were assessed on a range of outcomes including unimanual capacity and bimanual co-ordination, fine motor skills and cognitive development at 12-15 months c.a. and 24 months c.a. In all 96 infants were recruited to the study and completed the home therapy visits, with all 24-month assessments completed. The investigators presented their findings at the International IAACD-AusACPDM conference in March 2022 and the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine in October 2023. The results have been published in the peer reviewed publication "Early Developmental Trajectories of the Impaired Hand in Infants with Unilateral Cerebral Palsy." in the Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology Journal. (doi/10.1111/dmcn.16240).

The primary results demonstrated that both groups improved their early hand development and children who commenced intervention earlier had faster hand development than those who commenced after 6 months C.A. Our final results were published in the Journal of Pediatrics in late 2024 (see below). In addition, our PHD scholar Dr Kim Scott at Creighton University in the USA published some papers on intervention fidelity and enactment.

Chief Investigators: Prof. Roslyn Boyd, Prof. Jenny Ziviani, Dr L Sakzewski, Prof. I Novak, Prof. Nadia Badawi, Dr K Pannek, Prof. C Elliott, Dr Susan Greaves, Dr Andrea Guzzetta, Dr Koa Whittingham.

Associate Investigators: Prof. Jane Valentine, Prof. Paul Colditz, Dr Robert Ware, Dr Cathy Morgan, Dr Margaret Wallen, Dr Karen Walker, Dr Russell Dale, Prof. Stephen Rose, Dr Roz Ward, Dr Mary Sharp, Ms Lisa Findlay, Dr Priya Edwards.

US sites: Dr Bernadette Gillick, Dr Jill Heathcote, Dr Natalie Maitre.

Funding: NHMRC project grant 1078877 (2015-2018) \$939,038

Publications: Boyd, R. N. et al, (2017). BMJ Open, 7(9), e017204. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2017-017204>

Scott K, Sakzewski L, Ziviani J, Heathcock J, Boyd R, (2023). Pediatric Physical Therapy. 35(4):458-466. <https://doi.org/10.1097/pep.0000000000001038>

Boyd, R.N. et al, (2025). Journal of Pediatrics 277. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2024.114381>

Abstracts: Scott K, Heathcock JC, Sakzewski L, Boyd RN, (2023). Pediatric Physical Therapy, 35(1):151.

Scott K, Ziviani J, Boyd R, Sakzewski L, Hyer M, Heathcock J, (2022). Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology, 64(S3):69.

Scott K, Rethorn T, Heathcock JC, Sakzewski L, Boyd RN, (2023). Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology, 65(S3):133-134.

Scott K, Heathcock JC, Sakzewski L, Boyd RN, (2023). Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology, 65(S2):21-22.

GAME²⁰



The GAME study has been comparing the effects of an infant-friendly intensive, specific enriched training to traditional passive early intervention. Child development was assessed at the beginning of the study and again at 1-and 2 years-of-age to assess the difference between the two groups. GAME involved weekly intervention focusing on active motor training, parent education and environmental enrichment. Therapists visited families in their home weekly to coach parents in how to provide motor training and cognitive stimulation within their child's natural playtime.

The study has successfully reached its recruitment milestone of 300 families across Australia in 2021 (with Queensland team recruiting 62 families) making it the largest early intervention trial in CP internationally. Follow-up

and the final analysis have now been completed, and results were presented in national and international conferences in 2024. A protocol paper has been published in BMJ Open.

Chief Investigators: Prof. Iona Novak, Dr Cathy Morgan, Prof. Nadia Badawi, Prof. Roslyn Boyd, A/Prof. Alicia Spittle, Prof. Russell Dale, Ms Adrienne Kirby, A/Prof. Rod Hunt, Dr Kerstin Pannek, Dr Koa Whittingham.

Associate Investigators: A/Prof. Andrea Guzzetta, Claire Galea, Dr Karen Walker, Kristina Prelog, Prof. Michael Fahey, Shannon Clough, Prof. Stephen Rose.

¹⁹ **REACH:** <https://qcprc.centre.uq.edu.au/project/randomised-trial-early-rehabilitation-congenital-hemiplegia-reach>

²⁰ **GAME:** <https://cre-auscpcpn.centre.uq.edu.au/project/game-harnessing-neuroplasticity-rct-goal-directed-motor-enrichment-infant-cp>

Study Personnel QLD: Sarah Gibson, Christine Finn, Kym Morris, Ellena Oakes, Dr Andrea Burgess.

Funding: NHMRC project grant 1120031 (2017-2021) \$2,736,349

Publications: Morgan C, et al. *BMJ Open* 2023;13:e070649. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2022-070649

SuPreme study: Neuroprotective role of sulphate among preterm babies

Preterm birth places more than 4,000 Australian infants born each year at an increased risk of life-long adverse health outcomes, including cerebral palsy and cognitive dysfunction. We are addressing this important health issue with our current NHMRC-funded research into the neuroprotective role of sulphate among preterm babies. To date, our study has recruited more than 1,050 preterm infants (born less than 32 weeks gestation) at the Mater Mothers' Hospital and the Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital. A total of 1,505 infants are required for our study. We have shown that by one week of age, preterm infants become deficient in sulphate. Since sulphate is important for modulating brain development, we propose that sulphate deficiency is detrimental to normal neurodevelopment. In late 2017, our study commenced assessing clinical outcomes in 2-year-old children to determine whether sulphate deficiency after birth correlates with adverse neurodevelopment. If our hypothesis is proven, then neonatal sulphate supplementation may prove a simple and effective, low-cost, low-risk intervention universally available to all preterm infants to improve their chances of a normal neurodevelopmental outcome.

The study is currently undergoing data and health economics analysis, with outcomes presented at the Perinatal Society Meeting (PZANZ) in 2015 and final results to be submitted for publication by 2026.

Chief Investigators: A/Prof. Paul Dawson (MRI-UQ), Dr E Hurriem (MMH), Prof. N Badawi (CP Alliance), Prof. R Boyd, Prof. V Flenady (MRI-UQ), Prof. F Bowling (MRI-UQ), Dr P Koorts (RBWH), Prof. S Kumar (MRI-UQ).

Funding: NHMRC Project grant (APP1081911, \$720k, 2015-2019).

Publications: Hurriem EM, Badawi N, Boyd RN, et al. (2023). *BMJ Open*, e076130. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2023-076130>.

AutInsight – A parent support program for parents of autistic children informed by autistic adults.

Autism (Otherwise known as autism spectrum disorder) is a neurodevelopmental disability characterised by differences in social emotional communication as well as restrictive and repetitive behavioural patterns. In Australia, approximately 1 in 31 children are diagnosed with autism, with the numbers increasing every year. Most autistic individuals are between 5 and 19 years old at point of diagnosis as reported in the latest survey of disability, ageing and carers conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2024. The quality of the parent-child relationship, including attachment, is a strong predictor of many childhood outcomes—including emotional regulation, language, and empathy - and has flow-on effects into adulthood. Within the current published research literature, no research exists relating to what kind of parenting autistic individuals desired from their parents or what they think would be important for parents of autistic children to understand. Most intervention research has largely been informed by reports from family members or observations by professionals, rather than autistic people themselves. There is an increasing impetus and importance of involving autistic people with lived experience to inform interventions and research that will influence them and their community.

Seeing the need and knowledge gap, Sarah Lee (PhD Candidate; Clinical Psychologist) has taken on the opportunity to conduct a PhD study with QCPRRC's Dr Koa Whittingham. The aim of Sarah's PhD is to understand what contributes to "good" parenting according to autistic people, and to develop and test a consumer-informed parent support program grounded in this understanding for parents of autistic children. This was achieved through 4 studies: a thematic analysis, a systematic review, a measurement development study, and finally, a pilot randomised controlled trial of a parent support program, AutInsight. The proposed program will seek to help parents i) understand autism from the inside out, drawing on the perspectives of autistic adults; ii) cultivate insight into their child, including the specific constellation of characteristics of autism that their child experiences; and iii) develop a positive relationship with their child that is rich in parental sensitivity. Ms Lee has published four papers in *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40489-024-00482-x>) and *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-023-06188-z>; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-024-06630-w>; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-025-06764-5>) highlighting the current outcomes of the studies. Ms Lee has submitted her thesis in December 2024 and awaiting feedback from her examiners.

PhD Candidate: Sarah Lee, sarah.jy.lee@uq.edu.au Supervisors: Dr Koa Whittingham (Principal), Dr Amy Mitchell (Associate).

Centre Membership in 2025

Academic, General and Research Staff, and conjoint, adjunct, or honorary members specifically appointed to or affiliated with this centre and whose research activity occurs primarily in this centre.

QCPRRC Academic Staff

Title	First Name	Last Name	QCPRRC Position
Prof.	Roslyn	Boyd	Scientific Director, Professor of Cerebral Palsy Research
A/Prof.	Leanne	Sakzewski	Deputy Director, A/Professor of Cerebral Palsy Research (Occupational Therapy)
A/Prof.	Koa	Whittingham	Senior Research Fellow/Senior Lecturer (Psychology)
Dr	Ellen	Armstrong	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Physiotherapy)
Dr	Jacqui	Barfoot	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Occupational Therapy)
Dr	Andrea	Burgess	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Occupational Therapy)
Dr	Syed (Afroz)	Keramat	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Health Economy)
Dr	Gaela	Kilgour	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Physiotherapy)
Dr	Grace	Kirby	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Psychology)
Dr	Carly	Luke	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Physiotherapy)
Dr	Stina	Oftedal	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Nutrition & Dietetics)
Dr	Sarah	Reedman	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Physiotherapy)
Dr	Katherine	Benfer	NHMRC Early Career Fellow (Speech Pathology)
A/Prof.	Melek	Volkan Yazici	Visiting Academic- Senior Research Fellow (from Yüksek İhtisas University, Turkey)
Dr	Fiona	Russo	Post Doctoral Research Fellow (Community Involvement)

QCPRRRC Professional Staff

Title	First Name	Last Name	QCPRRRC Position
Dr	Ilaria	Stefani	General Manager
Dr	Shaneen	Leishman	Operations Manager (until November 2025)
Ms	Jacqueline	Robinson	Principal Research Governance Officer
Ms	Erin	Murphy	Senior Administration Officer (until October 2025)
Dr	Heledd	Brown-Wright	Clinical Research Coordinator
Ms	Pam	Gabrovska	Clinical Research Coordinator
Ms	Laura	Gascoigne-Pees	Clinical Research Coordinator
Ms	Sarah	Goodman	Clinical Research Coordinator
Mr	Edward	Hayes-Woods	Clinical Research Coordinator
Ms	Laura	Purcell	Clinical Research Coordinator
Ms	Melissa	Elliott	Operations Manager (From February 2026)
Ms	Josie	Macdonald	Senior Administration Officer (From November 2025)

QCPRRRC Clinical Staff

Title	First Name	Last Name	Hospital Appointment
Mrs	Christine	Finn	Senior Research Physiotherapist
Ms	Lucy	Fogarty	Research Physiotherapist
Ms	Sarah	Gibson	Research Physiotherapist
Ms	Sarah	Goodman	Research Speech Pathologist
Ms	Anya	Gordon	Research Physiotherapist
Dr	Carly	Luke	Senior Research Physiotherapist
Ms	Ellena	Oakes	Research Occupational Therapist
Ms	Zoe	Pearson	Casual Research Physiotherapist
Ms	Nicole	Topping	Casual Research Occupational Therapist
Ms	Hailey	Williams	Casual Research Physiotherapist
Dr	Jane	Wotherspoon	Research Psychologist

QCPRRC Honorary-Adjunct Staff / Research Affiliates

Title	First Name	Last Name	QCPRRC Position	Other Affiliation/Appointment	University Appointment
Dr	Lee	Barber	Honorary Senior Fellow	Senior Lecturer, Griffith University	Academic Title
Dr	Kristie	Bell	Academic Title Holder	Clinical Specialist Dietician, Qld Children's Hospital	Academic Title
A/Prof.	Chris	Carty	Honorary Senior Fellow	Clinical Motion Analysis Consultant, Qld Children's Hospital	Academic Title
Dr	Lisa	Copeland	Academic Title Holder	Paediatric Rehabilitation Specialist, Qld Children's Hospital	Academic Title
Dr	Corrine	Dickinson	Industry Fellow	Clinical Psychologist, Qld Children's Hospital	Industry Fellow
Dr	Priya	Edwards	Clinical Director	Director, QLD Paediatric Rehabilitation Service	Academic Title
Ms	Lisa	Findlay	Research Affiliate	Occupational Therapist, Qld Children's Hospital	Academic Title
Dr	Joanne	George	Academic Title holder	Advanced Physiotherapist, Qld Children's Hospital	Academic Title
Prof.	Andrea	Guzzetta	Honorary Senior Fellow	Paediatric Neurologist and Psychiatrist, University of Pisa	Honorary Senior Fellow
Dr	Diana	Hermith-Ramirez	Data Manager	Research Fellow and Data Manager, Griffith University	Industry Fellow
Ms	Megan	Kentish	Academic Title Holder	Program Director, Qld Paediatric Rehabilitation Service	Academic Title
Mr	Owen	Lloyd	Research Affiliate	Head of Psychology, Neuropsychologist, Qld Children's Hospital.	Casual Coordinator/Lecturer
Dr	Olga	Laporta-Hoyos	Industry Fellow	Psychologist, University of Barcelona, Spain	Industry Fellow
Dr	Lynne	McKinlay	Academic Title Holder	Deputy Director of Medical Services, Sunshine Coast Hospital	Academic Title

The Centre's wider membership

Other members who collaborate closely in this centre's research, but whose appointment or research activity is primarily affiliated somewhere else at UQ.

Title	First Name	Last Name	School/Centre/ Institute	University/ School Appointment	Hospital or other appointment
Prof.	Craig	Munns	Director, CHRC; Mayne Paediatrics	Professor of Academic Level E	Senior Medical Officer, Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes, Qld Children's Hospital
Prof.	Karen	Barlow	CHRC; Acquired Brain Injury in Children Program Lead	–Academic Level E	A/Prof. Paul Hopkins MAIC Chair of Paediatric Rehabilitation
Dr	Margot	Bosanquet	Townsville University Hospital	Honorary Research Fellow	Paediatrician, Director of Paediatric Rehabilitation.
Dr	Dana	Bradford	E-Health, CSIRO	Honorary Research Fellow	Group Leader, Health Services
Dr	Denise	Brookes	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Faculty of Medicine	Academic Level A	Clinical Bone Densitometry
Emeritus Prof.	Paul	Colditz	UQCCR	Director, Perinatal Research Centre	Neonatologist
Dr	Jurgen	Fripp	E-Health, CSIRO	Honorary Research Fellow	Image Analysis Team Leader
Dr	Kerstin	Pannek	E-Health, CSIRO	Honorary Research Fellow	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Dr	Alex	Pagnozzi	E-Health, CSIRO	Honorary Research Fellow	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Dr	Wei	Lu	E-Health, CSIRO	Honorary Research Fellow	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Prof.	Stephen	Rose	E-health, CSIRO	Honorary Professor	-
Dr	Javier	Urriola	E-Health, CSIRO	Honorary Research Fellow	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Dr	Liza	Van Eijk	James Cook University	Honorary Research Fellow	Lecturer
Prof.	Robert	Ware	Griffith University	Professor of Biostatistics	-
Em.Prof.	Jenny	Ziviani	School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Em. Prof. of Occupational Therapy	

Our Students – Research Degrees in progress in 2025

Name of Student	Topic	PhD MPhil	/ FT PT	/ Start Year	University, Faculty / School	Advisors	Advisory Role
Dr Andrea McGlade	ENACT (Environmental enrichment for infants; parenting with ACT): A randomised controlled trial of an innovation intervention for infants at risk of Autism Spectrum Disorder	PhD	PT	2018	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Dr Koa Whittingham Prof. Roslyn Boyd	PRIN ASSOC
Kate McLeod	Intensive motor training for preschool children with bilateral CP: impact on gross motor function	PhD	PT	2020	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof Leanne Sakzewski Dr Sarah Reedman	PRIN ASSOC
Leeann Ramsamy	LEAP-CP: indigenous cultural adaptation	PhD/ Indigenous Scholar	FT	2020	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof. Roslyn Boyd Dr Katherine Benfer	PRIN ASSOC
Sarah Lee	AutInsight - A parent support program for parents of autistic children informed by autistic adults. <i>Awarded PhD 2025</i>	PhD	FT	2021	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Dr Koa Whittingham Dr Amy Mitchell	PRIN ASSOC
Karen Mistry	Identifying neonatal structural MRI markers for 6-year motor outcomes in children born <31 weeks gestational age <i>Awarded PhD February 2026</i>	PhD	FT	2022	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Dr Joanne George Prof. Roslyn Boyd A/Prof Sam Bora Dr Alex Pagnozzi	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC ASSOC
Bianca Thompson	CP ArtS: Optimising social skills in primary school-aged children with acquired brain injury and cerebral palsy through active participation in a group-based Creative and Performing Arts Social skills program	PhD	FT	2022	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof. Leanne Sakzewski Dr Jacqui Barfoot	PRIN ASSOC
Lisa Hong, MD	Very Early Prediction of Neurodevelopmental Outcomes (E-PINO)	PhD	PT	2023	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof. Roslyn Boyd Prof Paul Colditz Dr Julie Wixey	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC
Kaely Bastock	Early feeding difficulties in infants with cerebral palsy: impact on caregivers, co-design, and pilot of an early feeding intervention	PhD	FT	2024	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Dr Stina Oftedal Dr Kath Benfer Prof. Roslyn Boyd	PRIN PRIN ASSOC

Tommaso Biagioni, MD	Relationship between HD-EEG, early clinical biomarkers and Brain Imaging to predict adverse Neurological Outcomes in high-risk infants.	PhD	FT	2024	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof Roslyn Boyd Prof Paul Colditz, A/Prof James Roberts Dr Jurgen Fripp	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC ASSOC
Linda Bonezzi, MD	Relationship between Brain Structure on MRI and early Clinical Biomarkers of neurodevelopment in High-risk infants.	PhD	FT	2024	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof Roslyn Boyd Dr Jurgen Fripp Prof Paul Colditz A/Prof Simona Fiori	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC ASSOC
Anya Gordon	Very early Clinical Biomarkers of neurodevelopment in High-risk infants.	PhD	FT	2024	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof. Roslyn Boyd Dr Carly Luke Prof Ari Bos Dr Susan Ireland	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC ASSOC
Simone Martin, MD	Evaluating the use of the BabyMoves Application to improve neurodevelopmental follow-up programs for high-risk NICU graduates in the Northern Territory	PhD	FT	2024	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof. Roslyn Boyd Prof Kath Benfer Dr Tamara MacKean	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC
Karen Hanna	What Matters to Parents of Children with Developmental Disability: Exploring Collaborative Goal-setting with Parents in Therapy		PT	2025	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Dr Jacqui Barfoot A/Prof Koa Whittingham Dr Grace Kirby	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC
Adele Fahey	Learning From Lived Experience: Understanding How Australian Families of Children with Complex Neurodisability Make Therapy Decisions Across Childhood		FT	2025	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Prof Leanne Sakzewski Dr Fiona Russo	PRIN ASSOC
Suzanne Smith	Implementing an early intervention program for infants at high chance of cerebral palsy in a low resource setting in Bangladesh: the Learning through Everyday Activities with Parents (LEAP-CP) program.		FT	2025	UQ, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Dr Kath Benfer Prof. Roslyn Boyd Dr Michelle Allen	PRIN ASSOC ASSOC

Research Grants and Income

Research Income in 2025

UQ Internal and Philanthropic Funding

Year	Total Funding Amount	Funding received in 2025	Project Title	Type of Funding and organisation/ company	Names of recipients or chief investigators	Admin Unit
2025	\$300K	\$300,000	Moving forward in cerebral palsy research	Merchant Charitable Foundation via Children's Hospital Foundation Queensland	Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2025	\$82.5K	\$82,500	Moving forward in cerebral palsy research	The University of Queensland, Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Initiatives Fund	Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2025	\$82.5K	\$82,500	Moving forward in cerebral palsy research	The University of Queensland, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)'s Strategic Initiatives Fund	Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2025	\$135K	\$135,000	Moving forward in cerebral palsy research	The University of Queensland, Faculty of Medicine	Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)

External Competitive Research Funding – Active Project Grants

Year	Total Funding Amount	Funding received in 2025	Project Title	Type of Funding and organisation/ company	Names of recipients or chief investigators	Admin Unit
2025-2030	\$3,000,000	\$100,000	Australasian Cerebral Palsy Health Network (Aus-CPHealthNet)	National Health and Medical Research Council	Sakzewski L, Boyd R,	UQ-CHRC
2024-2028	\$4,937,575	\$145,855	First Peoples co-designed cohort to support improved perinatal and early childhood outcomes	National Health and Medical Research Council	Rae K, Boyd R, Benfer K, Reid N, Whittingham K	UQ-CHRC
2024-2027	\$105,000	\$35,000	Evaluating the use of the BabyMoves Application to improve	Cerebral Palsy Alliance PhD scholarship	Martin S, Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)

			neurodevelopmental follow-up programs for high-risk NICU graduates in the Northern Territory			
2024-2026	\$994,907	\$525,924	CP-KASP (Cerebral Palsy Knowledge, Advocacy Skills, and Support Program): co-designed with families to optimise evidence-based support through the NDIS.	Medical Research Future Fund	Sakzewski L , Russo F, Boyd R , Whittingham K , Leishman S , Burgess A , Benfer K , Tyack Z, Copley J, Ware R, McIntyre S.	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2023-2026	\$1,458,918	\$475,935	E-PACT: Randomised Trial of Parenting Acceptance and Commitment therapy for Parents of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities CIA Whittingham	Medical Research Future Fund	Whittingham K , Barfoot J , Boyd R	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2023-2026	\$768,887	\$8,590	Run4Health	Medical Research Future Fund	Reedman R , Sakzewski L , Boyd R	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2023-2026	129,380	\$9,838	PEERS (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills) ® Primary	National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland	Sakzewski L	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2023-2026	139,677	\$8,646	PEERS (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills) ® Telehealth	National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland	Sakzewski L	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2022-2026	\$1,441,281	\$2,005	School Readiness: 4–5-year-old Follow-up of Randomised Trials of Neuroprotection and Rehabilitation for Children at risk of CP	Medical Research Future Fund – Maternal First 2,000 Days and Childhood Health	Boyd RN , Novak I, Morgan C, Sakzewski L , Fahey M, Ware R, Comans T, Whittingham K , Pannek K.	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2022-2026	\$5,000,000	\$1,095,947	Cerebral Palsy SYNERGY Network to Protect, Repair and improve Outcomes	National Health and Medical Research Council – Synergy Program	Boyd R , Novak I, Rose S, Fahey M, Colditz P, Hunt R, Badawi N, Fripp J, Sakzewski L , Corbett	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2022-2026	\$2,401,294	\$361,206	Active Strides: RCT of Intensive Rehabilitation (Combined Intensive Gait & Cycling Training) for children with moderate to severe CP	National Health and Medical Research Council – Cohort and Clinical Trials	Sakzewski L , Boyd R , Elliott C, Novak I, Pool D, Trost S, Ware R, Comans T, Toovey R, Peterson M.	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2022-2026	\$2,500,000	\$32,016	Australian Cerebral Palsy Musculoskeletal Health Network	MRFF	Munns C , Boyd R , Sakzewski L , Trost S, Ware R, Comans T,	UQ-CHRC

2022-2026	\$500,000	\$106,772	AlnCP Clinical validation of Artificial Intelligence for providing a personalized motor clinical profile assessment and rehabilitation of upper limb in children with unilateral Cerebral Palsy	EU-NHMRC Partnership Grant	Boyd R , Pagnozzi A, Sakzewski L	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2022- 2027	\$2,500,000		DRIVE CP: Directing Research in Very Early Cerebral Palsy	NHMRC CRE	Novak I, RN Boyd, L Sakzewski,	University of Sydney
2019-2024	\$830,000	\$85,553	PREBO-6: Prediction of childhood Brain Outcomes in infants born preterm using neonatal MRI and concurrent clinical biomarkers	NHMRC Project Grant	George J , Pagnozzi, Bora S, Boyd RN .	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2020-2024	\$499,732		BornToGetThere & LEAP-CP Indigenous	EU-NHMRC Partnership Grant	Boyd RN, Benfer K	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2019-2024	\$172,730	\$1,966	VISBLE: Vision Intervention for Seeing Impaired Babies through Learnings and Enrichment	Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Boyd RN , Guzzetta A, Novak I, Morgan C, Salt A, Elliott C, Gole G, Philip S , Badawi N, Rose S, Fripp J, Pannek K	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2020-2024	\$150,000		Peer delivered early intervention for Indigenous Australian infants at high risk of cerebral palsy: a pilot RCT study (Qld)	Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Benfer K, Boyd RN , Novak I, Morgan C, Whittingham K , Ware R	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2020-2024	\$150,000		Peer delivered early intervention for Indigenous Australian infants at high risk of cerebral palsy: a pilot RCT study (WA / NT)	Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Benfer K, Boyd RN , Novak I, Morgan C, Whittingham K , Ware R	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2022-2024	\$278,000	\$13,526	LEAP Indigenous: Families Together	Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Benfer K, Boyd R	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2020-2023	\$299,800		Peer delivered early intervention for Indigenous Australian infants at high risk of cerebral palsy: an RCT study	Children's Hospital Foundation	Benfer K, Boyd RN , Novak I, Ruben A, Morgan C, Whittingham K , Koh G, Kumar P, McNamara L, Bosanquet M	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2020-2023	\$105,000		Early detection of Indigenous infants at risk of neurodevelopmental disability and relationship to motor and cognitive outcomes at 12 months	Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Luke C, Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2020-2024	\$298,472		Preschool HABIT-ILE: Intensive rehabilitation to improve skills of young	Ramaciotti Health Investment Grants	Sakzewski L, Boyd R , Bleyenheuft Y, Novak I,	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)

	children (aged 2 to 5 years) with bilateral cerebral palsy.	The University of Queensland	Elliott C, Morgan C, Dowson N, Pannek K
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External Competitive Research Funding – Fellowships

Year	Total Funding Amount	Funding received in 2025	Project Title	Type of Funding and organisation/ company	Names of recipients or chief investigators	Admin Unit
2021-2025	\$2,090,000	\$496,571	NHMRC Investigator Grant L1: Early Detection and Early Intervention for Cerebral Palsy	National Health and Medical Research Council	Boyd RN	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2018-2026 (Part Time)	\$322,952	All funding received	Peer delivered early intervention for infants at high risk of cerebral palsy in Indigenous Australia	NHMRC Early Career Fellowships	Benfer K	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)

Courses and Workshop Income

Year	Payments received in 2025	Project Title	Names of recipients or chief investigators	Admin Unit
2025	\$13,633	Systematic Review	Boyd RN, Sakzewski L	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2025	\$15,018	Hine Courses	Luke C	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2025	\$2,864	Participate Workshop	Sakzewski L, Kilgour G	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)
2025	\$25,972	ASQ-TRAK	Luke C	UQ-CHRC (QCPRRC)

National and International Collaborations in 2025

Name and Position	Company/Institute/Department	Collaboration
Prof. Giovanni Cioni Head, Developmental Neuroscience	University of Pisa, Stella Maris Institute.	Co-investigator on early intervention studies and co-investigator on EU Horizon Submission, and co-supervision of PhD students
Prof. Andrea Guzzetta Prof of Child Neurology	University of Pisa, Stella Maris Institute.	Co-investigator on early intervention studies, project funding, and co-supervision of PhD students
Prof Guisy Sgandura	University of Pisa, Stella Maris Institute.	Co-investigator, Lead of EU Horizon Project AI in CP
Prof. Arend F (Arie) Bos Professor of Neonatology	Beatrix Children's Hospital, University Medical Center of Groningen	Implementation of General Movements training for early detection of Cerebral Palsy in India and Australia
Em Prof. Paul Colditz Director, Perinatal Research Centre	UQ Centre for Clinical Research, The University of Queensland	Co-investigator on neuroimaging and parenting studies, competitive project funding, co-supervision of PhD students
Prof. Matthew Sanders Director, Parenting and Family Support Centre	School of Psychology, The University of Queensland	Co-investigator on Triple P parenting studies, and co-supervision of PhD students
Prof. Tracy Comans NHMRC Boosting Dementia Research Leadership Fellow	Centre for Health Services Research The University of Queensland	Co-investigator on School Readiness and CP Synergy projects
A/Prof. Sam Bora Group Leader, Neurodevelopmental Follow-Up and Outcomes	Honorary Associate Professor Mater Research Institute-UQ Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences	Co-investigator on PREBO-6 and School Readiness projects
Dr Jürgen Fripp Image Analysis Team Leader Research Scientist	Australian eHealth Research Centre, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation CSIRO	Collaborator with expertise in HARDI imaging, dMRI analysis. Development of 30 week neonatal atlas based on Albert Atlas.
Dr Kerstin Pannek Senior Research Fellow	Australian eHealth Research Centre, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation CSIRO	Co-investigator on neuroimaging studies and competitive project funding.
Prof. Robert Ware Professor of Biostatistics	Menzies Health Institute Queensland, Griffith University	Co-investigator and associate investigator on NHMRC grants providing strong expertise in analyses of longitudinal data sets (prediction modelling) and RCTs.
Prof. Stewart Trost Professor of Child Health, Children's Physical Activity Research Group	School of Human Movement Studies The University of Queensland	Co-investigator on Cerebral Palsy Alliance Grant, School Readiness and Active Stride projects

A/Professor Christopher Carty Clinical Gait Consultant	Queensland Children's Motion Analysis Service, Centre for Children's Health Research, Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service.	Collaborator with expertise in clinical gait analysis and musculoskeletal modelling
Dr Michelle Jackman, PhD Post Doctoral Fellow	John Hunter Hospital, Sydney	Investigator on Development of Therapy Fidelity Tool
Prof. Alicia Spittle, PhD Principal Research Fellow Assoc Dean Medicine	Murdoch Childrens Research Institute The University of Melbourne	Development of an App for General Movements assessment and implementation of General Movements training for early detection of Cerebral Palsy; KiTE CP
Dr Margot Bosanquet Paediatrician, Rehabilitation Specialist	Townsville University Hospital Townsville Hospital & Health Services	Site Principal Investigator for KiTE-CP and LEAP-CP Indigenous studies
Dr Lynda McNamara PhD Physiotherapist	Cairns Hospital Cairns & Hinterland Hospital & Health Services	Site Principal Investigator for KiTE-CP and LEAP-CP Indigenous studies
Prof Gulam Khandaker	Director Public Health, Central Queensland Hospital & Health Service	Development of CP register on Tanna, Vanuatu
Dr Olga Laporta-Hoyos, Post Doctoral Neuroscientist	University of California San Francisco	Associate investigator on NHMRC grants
Dr Terry Swartz, Paediatric Ophthalmologist	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	Co-investigator on VISIBLE early intervention study
Dr Karen Harpster, PhD Paediatric Occupational Therapist	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	Co-investigator on VISIBLE early intervention study
Prof. Nana Tatishvili Director, Head of Child Neurology	M.Tashvili Children central Hospital, Georgia	Co-investigator on LEAP-CP early intervention studies
Prof Mark Peterson, Charles E. Lytle Jr Research Professor	University of Michigan USA	Co-investigator on Active Strides-CP study
Prof Annette Majnemer, Senior Scientist	McGill University, Canada	Co-investigator on Participate CP study
A/Prof Keiko Shikako, Canada Research Chair in Childhood Disability: participation and knowledge translation	McGill University, Canada	Associate-investigator on Participate CP study
Prof Yannick Bleyenheuft	Universite Catholique de Louvain, Belgium	Co-investigator on HABIT-ILE studies
Mr Gopi Kitsanamy	Director and Founder, Cerebral Palsy Lanka	Co-investigator on LEAP-CP early intervention studies
Prof. Colleen Peyton	Northwestern University, Chicago	Developers of Baby OSCAR, Collaborators on QEDIN
A/Prof. Theresa Sukal Moulton	Northwestern University, Chicago	Developers of Baby OSCAR, Collaborators on QEDIN
Dr Ana Carolina Campos	University of San Carlos, Brazil	Associate-investigator on LEAP-CP
Prof Hilda Feys	KU Katholiek University Leuven, Belgium.	Co-investigator AI in CP.

Conference Presentations & Community Activities in 2025

NATIONAL

Person	Oral/Poster or Title Activity		Name of Society/ Organisation/ Conference, Date and Location
Carly Luke	Oral	First Nations culturally-adapted early screening program predicts neurodevelopmental outcomes at 12 months corrected age.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Carly Luke	Oral	Implementation of a state-wide early detection network predicts neurodevelopmental outcomes at 2 years in an 'at risk' infant cohort.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Carly Luke	Workshop	The Queensland Early Detection and Intervention Network: State-wide implementation of the International Clinical Practice Guidelines for the early identification of Cerebral Palsy and neurodevelopmental disability.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Carly Luke	Workshop	Use of the Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination to identify infants with high likelihood of Cerebral Palsy and other Neurodevelopmental delays and/or Disability: an update of the evidence.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Kate McLeod	Oral	The Preschool HABIT-ILE approach: pre post analysis of best responders in young children with bilateral cerebral palsy.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Gaela Kilgour	Oral	Understanding 'optimal involvement' when participating in physical activity using the involvement continuum.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Gaela Kilgour	Workshops	Understanding Involvement: Setting goals through infancy to adolescence.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Gaela Kilgour, Koa Wittingham, and Grace Kirby	Workshops	Promoting participation in physical activity for parents and their children in clinical practice early.	Rehab for Kids 2025: Shaping Futures Together, 3-5 November, Brisbane
Gaela Kilgour	Workshops	The feasibility of delivering a low-load plyometric intervention for children with generalised joint hypermobility in private practice	Australian Physiotherapy Association Conference, 23-25 October, Adelaide
Linda Bonezzi	Oral	Concordance of Kidokoro MRI Scores in Very Preterm Infants at 30 and 40 Postmenstrual Weeks.	Australasian Brain Club and Newborn Cell Therapies joint Symposium Therapies joint, 29-31th October 2025, Noosa
Koa Whittingham	Panel	Infant sleep panel for paediatric masterclass (Invited)	RACGP annual conference GP25, November 14-16, Brisbane

Jacqui Barfoot	Oral	Activating Parents in Early Intervention: Evaluating Goal Attainment of a Relationally Informed Approach	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA) 31st National Conference & Exhibition, June 25–27, 2025, Adelaide
Jacqui Barfoot	Workshop	Supporting emotional regulation: tools to help engage families and build parent capacity	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA) 31st National Conference & Exhibition, June 25–27, 2025, Adelaide
Jacqui Barfoot	Workshop	Connect Play Learn: Using the PAIR model to integrate a relational approach in early childhood intervention	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA) 31st National Conference & Exhibition, June 25–27, 2025, Adelaide

INTERNATIONAL

Person	Oral/Poster or Title Activity		Name of Society/ Organisation/ Conference, Date and Location
Leeann Mick-Ramsamy	Oral	The Baby Movement Check: A culturally-informed early detection program for First Nations Australian infants with birth-identifiable cerebral palsy risk factors.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Stina Oftedal	Oral	Brain lesion severity, growth and nutritional status of children with cerebral palsy.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Stina Oftedal	Oral	School readiness of children identified as high risk of cerebral palsy in infancy.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Bernadette Shannon	Oral	Boyd. Vision intervention for seeing impaired babies: Learning through enrichment – A pilot RCT.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd	Oral	Predictive value of brain MRI at and before term equivalent age for motor and cognitive outcomes in infants born very preterm.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd	Oral	Clinical predictive validity of early high-risk of cerebral palsy classification for diagnosis of cerebral palsy by 2 years.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of

			Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Kate McLeod	Oral	Goal-setting in infants with cerebral palsy: Impact of motor severity on goal attainment.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Kate McLeod	Oral	The Preschool HABIT-ILE approach: Pre post analysis of best responders in young children with bilateral cerebral palsy.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd Golam Moula	Oral	Implementation of the LEAP-CP (Learning through Everyday Activities with Parents of Infants with Cerebral Palsy) early detection and intervention program in West Bengal India.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd	Workshop	Early intervention for infants at high chance of cerebral palsy and other adverse neurodisability.	Joint European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd	Workshop	International update on latest developments in Neonatal MRI and for children at high risk of Cerebral Palsy.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd	Workshop	International update on early identification of cerebral palsy and neurodevelopmental disability.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 25 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Roslyn N. Boyd	Workshop	An International Interdisciplinary Perspective on the Assessment of School Readiness in Children with Cerebral Palsy: An Evidence-Based Update.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 27 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Carly Luke	Oral	Decoding Early Motor Behaviour: Infant neuromotor trajectories across evidence-based tools predict neurodevelopmental outcomes at 2 years.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Carly Luke	Oral	First Nations culturally-adapted early screening program predicts infant neurodevelopmental outcomes at 12 months corrected age.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of

			Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Carly Luke	Oral	Early infant neuromotor trajectories predict high likelihood of autism at 12 months corrected age in a developmentally vulnerable infant cohort.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Carly Luke	Workshop	International Update on the General Movements Assessment Detailed Optimality Scoring for Early Identification of Cerebral Palsy and Neurodevelopmental Disability.	Joint European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 26 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Carly Luke	Workshop	International update on early identification of cerebral palsy and neurodevelopmental disability.	Joint European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 25 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Karen Mistry	Oral	Prognostic value of clinically accessible neonatal MRI scoring for 6-year motor outcomes in a prospective cohort of infants born very preterm.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Katherine Benfer	Keynote	CP Alliance Ward Lecture. Early Intervention for children with CP in LMICs.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Katherine Benfer	Oral	Embedding for Mob: Incorporating perspectives into a First Nations Australian early family support program (LEAP) for bubs at high chance of cerebral palsy.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Katherine Benfer	Workshop	Application of New Evidence-Based Interventions for Oropharyngeal Dysphagia and Nutrition in Children with Cerebral Palsy to Global Contexts.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 25 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Kavindri Kulasinghe	Oral	RCT of ENACT – Effects on maternal mental health and the parent-child relationship in families of infants at increased likelihood of autism.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Sarah Reedman	Oral	Best gross motor responders to Hand Arm Bimanual Intensive Therapy Including Lower Extremity (HABIT-ILE) in children with bilateral CP.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.

Andrea Burgess	Oral	Preschool Hand-Arm Bimanual Intensive Therapy Including Lower Extremities (HABIT-ILE) in Australia.	Joint European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Andrea Burgess	Oral	Responsiveness, reliability and minimal important change of the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory–Computer Adaptive Test – Daily Activities (PEDI-CAT_DA) domain.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Andrea Burgess	Workshop	World Register Congress: Challenges in diagnosing and classifying cerebral palsy.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Gaela Kilgour	Workshop	Being participation focused: Implementing the evidence to support young people with cerebral palsy to participate in meaningful life situations	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Gaela Kilgour	Workshop	Participation through the lifespan: An international perspective on participation-focused intervention in physical activity.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Gaela Kilgour	Oral	“It opened up possibilities”: Elements of a participation-focused physical activity intervention influencing experiences and outcomes for children with cerebral palsy and their families	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Gaela Kilgour	Oral	Exploring the implementation of a participation-focused intervention ‘Run Club’ on the constructs described within the Family of Participation Related Constructs (fPRC): A qualitative follow up study.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Grace Kirby	Instructional Seminar	Consumer-Led Research: International Examples and Practical Advice for Researchers.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Leanne Sakzewski	Workshop	Parental role during intensive interventions and different options for partnership and impact of such interventions on parental mental health. Instructional Workshop.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Leanne Sakzewski	Workshop	Advancing precision rehabilitation: using measures of fidelity to define optimal intervention-outcome relationships across the lifespan.	European Academy Of Childhood Disability & International Alliance of

			Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany.
Carly Luke	Oral	Relationship between early infant Neuromotor behaviour on the Motor Optimality Score-revised and Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination and high likelihood of autism at 12 months.	American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine 79th Annual meeting October 15–18, 2025. New Orleans, United States of America
Carly Luke	Oral	Cerebral Palsy Screening tools predict broader Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years: Insights from a State-wide Implementation Study.	American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine 79th Annual meeting October 15–18, 2025. New Orleans, United States of America
Carly Luke	Workshop	Harnessing infant spontaneous movements to direct referral to targeted early interventions.	American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine 79th Annual meeting October 15–18, 2025. New Orleans, United States of America
Kate McLeod	Oral	The Preschool HABIT-ILE approach: pre post analysis of best responders in young children with bilateral cerebral palsy.	American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine 79th Annual meeting October 15–18, 2025. New Orleans, United States of America
Kate McLeod	Oral	Implementation of Intensive Early Intervention using Motor Learning approaches for children with cerebral palsy 0-5 years.	American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine 79th Annual meeting October 15–18, 2025. New Orleans, United States of America
Sarah Reedman	Keynote	Invited keynote in the session "Sports and Active Life in CP"	Türkiye Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Disorders Congress. 24 Feb 2025
Koa Whittingham, Grace Kirby, and Jacqui Barfoot	Oral	Burnout, Flexibility and Resilience: Taking Care of Ourselves so we can Take Care of Children and Families.	International Congress on Evidence-based Parenting Support (I-CEPS), 4-7 June.

QCPRRC Journals Publications 2025

- 1 Jesia G Berry, Ajay Taranath, Robert Goetti, Michelle A Farrar, Simona Fiori, Huy-Dat Pham, (...) **Roslyn N Boyd**, et al. Genetic diagnostic yield by MRI pattern in children with cerebral palsy: a population-based study EBioMedicine. 2025 Dec;122:106013.
- 2 **Benfer, K.A.**, Ghosh, A.K., Chowdhury, S., Moula, G., Samanta, S., Maiti, P., Bhattacharya, A., Khan, N.Z., (...), **Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Early detection of infants with neurodevelopmental concerns indicative of cerebral palsy in a lower middle-income country (India). *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67(12), pp.1554. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dmcn.16351>
- 3 **Burgess, A.**, Chatfield, M.D., Hermith-Ramirez, D., Jackman, M., Thorley, M., **Reedman, S., Boyd, R.N., Sakzewski, L.** (2025) Active upper-limb therapies for hand function, individual goal achievement, and self-care in children with cerebral palsy: A network meta-analysis. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (12) ,pp.1543.
- 4 Alexander, C.F., Hall, S.E., Salt, A., Spittle, A.J., Morgan, C., Grisbrook, T., Ali, A., Amery, N., **RN . Boyd** (...), Valentine, J. (2025) Implementation Fidelity of a Smartphone Application for Population-Based General Movement Assessment: The Early Moves Study. *Journal of Pediatrics* 285
- 5 **Sakzewski, L.**, Bleyenheuft, Y., Novak, I., Elliott, C., Reedman, S., Morgan, C., Pannek, K., Santos, N.D., (...), **Boyd, R.N.** (2025) A Multisite Randomized Controlled Trial of Hand Arm Bimanual Intensive Training Including Lower Extremity for Children with Bilateral Cerebral Palsy. *Journal of Pediatrics* 284.
- 6 Beani, E., Matteucci, E., Sicola, E., Martini, G., Di Lieto, M.C., Bombonato, C., Menici, V., Cotardo, A., (...), **Boyd RN**, Sgandurra, G. (2025). ACT-ON-DIP: Study Protocol of a Randomized Controlled Trial of a Home-Based ACTION Observation Tele-Rehabilitation for Upper Limb in Children with DIPlegic Cerebral Palsy. *Children* 12 (9).
- 7 **Luke, C.**, Bos, A.F., Jackman, M., Ware, R.S., **Gordon, A.**, Finn, C., Baptist, D.H., Benfer, K.A., Bosanquet, M., **Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Reproducibility of the Motor Optimality Score–Revised in infants with an increased risk of adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (9) ,pp.1176. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dmcn.16256>
- 8 De Luca, G., Kalkantzi, A., Mailleux, L., Palomo-Carrión, R., Feys, H., **Boyd, R.N.**, Beani, E., Cianchetti, M., (...), Maselli, M. (2025) A Holistic Approach Towards Evaluating Upper Limb Function in Children with Unilateral Cerebral Palsy: A Narrative Review of Clinical Tools and Promising Technologies for Comprehensive Assessment. *Journal of Clinical Medicine* 14 (18).
- 9 **Sakzewski, L.**, Greaves, S., Eliasson, A.-C., Wallen, M., Novak, I., Ware, R.S., Heathcock, J., Maitre, N., **Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Early developmental trajectories of the impaired hand in infants with unilateral cerebral palsy. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (7), pp.901.
- 10 Williamson, A.E., **Boyd, R.N.**, Ware, R.S., Chatfield, M.D., Hough, J.L., Colditz, P.B., George, J.M. (2025) Predicting neurodevelopment in very preterm infants using the Test of Infant Motor Performance. *Early Human Development* 206.
- 11 **Whittingham, K., Kirby, G., Boyd, R.N.**, Novak, I., Mitchell, A.E., Reid, N., **Keramat, S.A.**, Hudry, K., (...), Costa, N. (2025) Parenting Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Online (PACT Online) for parents of children diagnosed with or with increased likelihood of neurodevelopmental disability: study protocol of a randomised controlled trial. *BMJ Open* 15 (6).
- 12 Mistry, K.H., **Boyd, R.N.**, Pagnozzi, A.M., Bora, S., Ware, R.S., George, J.M. (2025) Diagnostic accuracy of early neonatal MRI in predicting adverse motor outcomes in children born preterm: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (6), pp.710.
- 13 Blank, R., Schroder, S., **Boyd, RN.** Foreword International Alliance of Academies of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, Heidelberg Conference. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (S2), pp.3.
- 14 Cameron, K.L.I., Coulston, F., Kwong, A.K.-L., **Whittingham, K.**, Morgan, C., **Boyd, R.N.**, Crowle, C., Sakakini, H., Spittle, A. (2025) Parents' experiences of early screening for cerebral palsy: A qualitative reflexive thematic analysis. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (6), pp.788.
- 15 Blank, R., **Boyd, R.**, Schaaf, C., Schroeder, S. (2025) Professionals and individuals with lived experience of childhood-onset disabilities: Developing networks to improve care. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (6), pp.694.
- 16 Pagnozzi, A.M., Pannek, K., **Boyd, R.N.**, van Eijk, L., George, J.M., Bora, S., Bradford, D., Fahey, M., (...), Fripp, J. (2025) Brain MRI before and at term equivalent age predicts motor and cognitive outcomes in very preterm infants. *Neuroimage Reports* 5 (2).

- 17 **Kilgour, G.,Reedman, S.E.,**Gomersall, S.R.,**Sakzewski, L.,**Trost, S.,**Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Study protocol for Active Start Active Future: a randomised control trial of an early behaviour-change intervention targeting physical activity participation and sedentary behaviour in young children with cerebral palsy living in South East Queensland, Australia. *BMJ Open* 15 (5).
- 18 **Whittingham, K.,**Crandon, T.,Mak, C.,Sheffield, J.,Wright, A.,**Kirby, G.,Boyd, R.** (2025) Experiences of Parents of Children With Cerebral Palsy Participating in an Online Parenting Course Grounded in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. *Child Care Health and Development* 51 (3).
- 19 Munns, C.F.,**Bentley, L.A.,Boyd, R.N.,**Brookes, D.,Taylor, M.J.,Pivonka, P.,Nassar, N.,Trost, S.G.,(...),Paget, S (2025) Study protocol for the Australasian Cerebral Palsy Musculoskeletal Health Network (AusCP MSK) prospective cohort study: early detection of musculoskeletal complications in young children with moderate to severe cerebral palsy (GMFCS III-V). *BMJ Open* 15 (4) ,pp.e095526. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2024-095526>
- 20 Blasco, M.,García-Galant, M.,Ballester-Plané, J.,Laporta-Hoyos, O.,Caldú, X.,Leiva, D.,**Boyd, R.N.,**Ortibus, E.,(...),Toro-Tamargo, E.(2025) Transferability of an executive function intervention in children with cerebral palsy: A randomized controlled trial. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (4), pp.496.
- 21 **Burgess, A.,Luke, C.,**Jackman, M.,**Wotherspoon, J.,Whittingham, K.,Benfer, K.,**Goodman, S.,**Caesar, R.,(...),Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Clinical utility and psychometric properties of tools for early detection of developmental concerns and disability in young children: A scoping review. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 67 (3), pp.286.
- 22 **Sakzewski, L.,**Gilmore, R.,Hilton, N.,**Goodman, S.,Whittingham, K.,Barfoot, J.,**Thompson, B.,Keramat, A.,**Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Telehealth Programme for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS) for adolescents with acquired and congenital brain injuries: a protocol for mixed-methods randomised trial. *BMJ Open* 15 (2).
- 23 **Oftedal, S.,**McCormack, S.,Stevenson, R.,**Benfer, K.,Boyd, R.N.,**Bell, K. (2025) The evolution of nutrition management in children with severe neurological impairment with a focus on cerebral palsy. *Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics* 38 (1).
- 24 **Boyd, R.N.,Greaves, S.,**Ziviani, J.,Novak, I.,Badawi, N.,Pannek, K.,Elliott, C.,Wallen, M.,(...),**Sakzewski, L.** (2025) Randomized Comparison Trial of Rehabilitation Very Early for Infants with Congenital Hemiplegia. *Journal of Pediatrics* 277.
- 25 Thompson, B.,Gilmore, R.,Hilton, N.,Barfoot, J.,Moody, C.T.,**Whittingham, K.,Keramat, A.,Boyd, R.N.,Sakzewski, L.**(2025) Investigating a caregiver-assisted social skills group programme for primary and early high school-aged children with acquired brain injury or cerebral palsy: protocol for a pilot mixed-methods, two-group randomised trial of PEERS Plus. *BMJ Open* 15 (1).
- 26 **Luke, C.,Benfer, K.A.,Mick-Ramsamy, L.,**Ware, R.S.,Bosanquet, M.,Reid, N.,Bos, A.F.,**Boyd, R.N.,(...),**Kentish, M (2025) Predicting neurodevelopmental outcomes in Australian First Nations infants: The transdiagnostic utility of early screening tools. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*.Early View.
- 27 Urriola, J.,Pannek, K.,Bradford, D.,Fripp, J.,Trinder, J.,Mistry, K.,Colditz, P.B.,**Boyd, R.,(...),**Pagnozzi, A.M. (2025) Altered functional brain organisation in preterm Children: Motor task and resting-state fMRI findings at six years. *Neuroimage Clinical* 48.
- 28 Kwong, A.K.,Eeles, A.L.,Anderson, P.J.,Arunanthy, S.,Badawi, N.,**Boyd, R.N.,**Cameron, K.L.C.,Colditz, P.B.,(...),Spittle, A.J. (2025) Early high risk of cerebral palsy classification is predictive of cerebral palsy at 2 years: an implementation cohort study. *Archives of Disease in Childhood*. 111(1), pp 76.
- 29 **Oftedal S, Fiori S, Bell KL, Benfer KA, Sakzewski L, Ware RS, Davies PSW, Boyd RN.** Brain lesion extent, growth, and body composition in children with cerebral palsy. *Dev Med Child Neurol*. 2026 Feb;68(2):199-210. doi: 10.1111/dmcn.16427. Epub 2025 Jul 31. PMID: 40745624; PMCID: PMC12766548.
- 30 Mistry, K.H.,Bora, S.,Pannek, K.,Pagnozzi, A.M.,Fiori, S.,Guzzetta, A.,Ware, R.S.,Colditz, P.B.,**Boyd, R.N.,**George, J.M.(2025) Diagnostic accuracy of neonatal structural MRI scores to predict 6-year motor outcomes of children born very preterm. *Neuroimage Clinical* 45.
- 31 Volkan-Yazici, M.,Yazici, G.,**Reedman, S.,**Leishman, S.J.,**Sakzewski, L.,Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Efficacy of functional training on cardiorespiratory fitness in individuals with cerebral palsy: A systematic review. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*. 2025;00:1–15. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/dmcn.70040>.
- 32 Jackman, M.,Thorley, M.,Toovey, R.,Burgess, A.,Blatch-Williams, R.,Sakzewski, L.,**Boyd, R.N.,**Novak, I.(2025) Implementing Clinical Practice Guidelines for Improving Function in Cerebral Palsy: Development of a Fidelity Tool. *Pediatric Physical Therapy* 37 (1) ,pp.4.
- 33 **Reedman, S.E.,Kilgour, G.M.,**Gomersall, S.,**Sakzewski, L.,**Trost, S.G.,**Boyd, R.N.** (2025) Active Start Active Future: Feasibility of a Behaviour-Change Intervention to Reduce Sedentary Behaviour

and Promote Physical Activity in Young Children with Cerebral Palsy. *Physical and Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics* 45 (5) ,pp.745.

- 34 **Bentley LA**, Taylor MJ, Brookes DSK, Ware RS, Fehlings D, **Boyd RN**, & Munns CF (2025). Fractures in Children With Cerebral Palsy: A Systematic Review. *Pediatrics*. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2025-072946>.
- 35 Killingly C, Matheson S, **Bentley LA**, & Swanson, E. (2025). Interventions for students with reading difficulties in Grades 4-12: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Educational Research Review* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.edurev.2025.100758>.
- 36 L'Estrange L, **Bentley LA** (2025) Implementing Trauma-Informed Education: Translating Intentions into Practice. *Journal of Trauma Studies in Education*. <https://doi.org/10.70085/jtse.v4i2.120>.
- 37 **Sakzewski L**, Gilmore R, Hilton N, Kentish M, Goodman S, **Whittingham K**, **Barfoot J**, **Boyd RN**. Protocol for a mixed methods randomised trial of telehealth Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®) for adolescents with brain injuries. *BMJ Open* 2025 Feb 26;15(2):e081843. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2023-081843.
- 38 Thompson BA, **Gilmore R**, **Barfoot J**, Hilton N, **Boyd RN**, **Whittingham K**, **Sakzewski L**. Investigating a caregiver-assisted social skills group programme for primary and early high school-aged children with acquired brain injury or cerebral palsy: protocol for a pilot mixed-methods, two-group randomized trial of PEERS Plus. *BMJ Open* 2025, Jan 4;15(1):e095354. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2024-095354.
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- 41 Ahammed, B., Alam, K., Hoque, Z. and **Keramat, S.A.**, 2025. The disability and care squeeze: the effects of children's disability and special healthcare needs on parents' employment in Australia. *The European Journal of Health Economics*, pp.1-16.
- 42 Sultana, S., Islam, K.N., **Keramat, S.A.** and Ahammed, B., 2025. Wealth-Based Inequalities in Child Undernutrition and the Double Burden of Malnutrition Among Child-Mother Dyads at the Same Household in Bangladesh: A Decomposition Approach Using Cross-Sectional Data. *Health Science Reports*, 8(12), p.e71628.
- 43 Ahammed, B., Alam, K., Hoque, Z. and **Keramat, S.A.**, 2025. Mental health at risk: Predicting psychological distress in Australian youth through machine learning models. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, p.120679.
- 44 Ali, M.A., **Keramat, S.A.**, Hashmi, R. and Lu, C.Y., 2025. Workplace productivity losses due to cancer: findings from an Australian longitudinal population survey (2009–2021). *Expert Review of Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research*, pp.1-10.
- 45 **Keramat, S.A.**, Alam, K., Basri, R., Mohammed, A., Seidu, A.A., Ahinkorah, B.O. and Al Mamun, A., 2025. Sleep quality, obesity and the risk of multimorbidity among Australian middle-aged and older adults: Evidence from a national longitudinal household survey. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, p.100280.
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- 47 **Keramat, S.A.**, Okafor, C.E., Balasooriya, N.N., Faria Shreya, N. and Beyene, A.S., 2025. Psychosocial Factors and Bowel Cancer Screening Among Middle-Aged and Older Australians: Evidence From a Population-Based Longitudinal Study. *American Journal of Health Promotion*, p.08901171251390677.
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- 49 Ahmad, K., Khanam, R., Keating, B., **Keramat, S.A.**, Hashmi, R., Kabir, E. and Jürges, H., 2025. The excess Medicare costs of long-term medical condition or disability: A longitudinal population-based study of Australian children. *Disability and Health Journal*, p.101971.
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- 51 **Keramat, S.A.**, Sarker, P.M., Comans, T., Brooks, D. and Dissanayaka, N.N., 2025. Deterioration of health-related quality of life: the hidden health burden of informal caregiving. *The European Journal of Health Economics*, pp.1-24.

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QCPRRC Conferences Publications 2025

- 1 **Leeann Mick-Ramsamy, Carly Luke, Roslyn N. Boyd, Katherine Benfer.** The Baby Movement Check: A culturally-informed early detection program for First Nations Australian infants with birth-identifiable cerebral palsy risk factors. International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany. *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology* 2025, 67 (S2):17.
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- 3 Andrea Guzzetta, Ada Bancale, Olena Chorna, **Bernadette Shannon**, Nana Nino Tatishvil, Ana Bedoshvili, Karen Harpster, Terry Schwartz, **Glen Gole**, Alison Salt, Swetha Philip, **Roslyn N. Boyd**. Vision intervention for seeing impaired babies: Learning through enrichment – A pilot RCT. International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability 24-28 June 2025, Heidelberg, Germany. *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology* 2025, 67 (S2):50.
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