

25 *Year*
Anniversary
ANNUAL REVIEW

SPINNAKER HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION 2022





COVER IMAGE: *THE HOLDING*.

**NATALIE SCHOLTZ (B. 1981)
ARTIST**

Natalie Scholtz (b. 1981) is a Persian South African Australian raised visual artist, living in Fremantle WA. Her works are not literal representations but playful depictions of the complexity of being human. Scholtz intertwines personal and political, the allegory, the real and the obscure on canvas, board and paper.

Natalie's conceptual practice and paintings are influenced by her personal dialogue, experience and community practice in CACD (Community Arts and Cultural Development) as a Tutor, Mentor, Facilitator, and Coordinator. Her experience working with young people and adults in DADAA (Disability in the Arts, Disadvantage in the Arts, Australia) Fremantle, As We Are Mentorship and CAN (Community Arts Network) on projects such as Place Names Walyalup permeates Natalie's creative response to the space she inhabits. For the past 15 years Natalie has designed workshop spaces that celebrate culture, nurture social engagement, mental health and wellbeing.

The Holding celebrates the relationship between community care and support of the human condition - head, heart, body and soul. Ink, acrylic and oil form visceral textures on canvas suggesting the human brain, our skin, tissue and the inquiring space. An abstracted fragment of a figure gently holds the face of another. The surrounding galactic space suggests infinite possibilities and hints at something profound. Scholtz commemorates the support, validity and integrity of institutes such as Fremantle Hospital and Spinnaker Health Research Foundation and suggests this relationship with the assemblage of her figures in *The Holding*.





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Audited Financial Statements

Interested persons may receive a copy of the audited financial statement of the Spinnaker Health Research Foundation for the financial year ending 30 June 2020 by written request to admin@spinnakerhealth.org.au



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CHAIR REPORT



ANDREW FRIARS
CHAIRMAN

It has been a tremendous year for Spinnaker as we celebrated our 25th year and embedded and further executed our strategy. The impact of many of our research investments was recognised, our “theme-based research strategy” developed further and our increased focus on philanthropy allowed us to raise and disburse record amounts of grants to further our research strategies. The support of our community of donors and philanthropic funders is inspirational and a testimony to their commitment to a better and healthier future for everyone we seek to serve; locally and globally.

We hosted our 25-Year Anniversary Gala dinner at the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle in September. The evening brought together an exceptional coterie of guests, including several of our Founders and a very special group of donors who made their very first donation 25 years ago (and are still generously donating each year). It was humbling to be a part of such a celebration and to hear from our

Founding, and continuing Patron, Professor Barry Marshall AC on the important role investment can make in early research. Professor Marshall’s message was powerful and simple; the grants we provide make a difference.

As we reported last year, Spinnaker responded to the pandemic by pivoting towards supporting COVID-19 research through an exceptional grant to support the Australian National Phenome Centre and its groundbreaking research lead by Professor Jeremy Nicholson. We are so pleased to advise that this unique, international, research collaboration, in partnership with University of Cambridge and Harvard University, works across eight countries and has led to astonishing discoveries; 18 international publications; and a novel test that is subject to an international patent in partnership with New York-listed Bruker GmbH.

Another example of our theme-based research strategy is our focus on melanoma research with the Janine Chalwell research fund. I would like to acknowledge the passion and hard work of the Janine Chalwell Committee which commenced fundraising for melanoma research in early 2021 and quickly raised almost three hundred thousand dollars in their first year. This remarkable effort facilitated the establishment of Western Australia’s first dedicated Melanoma Research Grants, which were awarded to Prof Elin Gray and Dr Lydia Warburton. We look forward to their ongoing support and passion.

We have also launched the Men’s Health Research strategy and sub fund which is getting excellent traction. We will be launching several other funds also in the new year as we strive to meet the unmet gaps of medical research and endeavour in WA. We are open

to all passionate groups who would like to utilise our infrastructure and expertise to pursue worthy causes and encourage cross organisation and interdisciplinary initiatives of universal benefit.

Our increased focus on philanthropy as a source of grant funding has been an amazing success, raising almost one million dollars in the 2021-2022 financial year. I am very pleased to report that over the last year we were able to award the highest amount of funding to research in south metropolitan Perth in our 25-year history.

Partnerships with West Australian academic institutes are also a passion of the Foundation. We were very pleased this year to partner with Edith Cowan University in establishing the bi-annual Explorers Grant. We were very pleased to be able to make the inaugural award to Cathy Latino, Senior Endocrinology Dietitian at Fiona Stanley Hospital, and look forward to supporting her through her early discovery stage of research for gestational diabetes.

We are well progressed on the implementation of our strategy, and I would like to thank my fellow Directors for their ongoing (and additional) commitment and effort during the year. I would like to make special mention of our CEO, Dana Henderson, whose passion, drive, and energy has made a significant difference to our work.

To everyone who has made the past 25 years the absolute success it has been, I thank you. More so, I welcome you to continue with us on the journey and look forward to welcoming many more donors, supporters and researchers as we continue to invest in new ideas, make the impossible possible, and solve the big health problems of the future.

There is a very exciting time ahead of us.



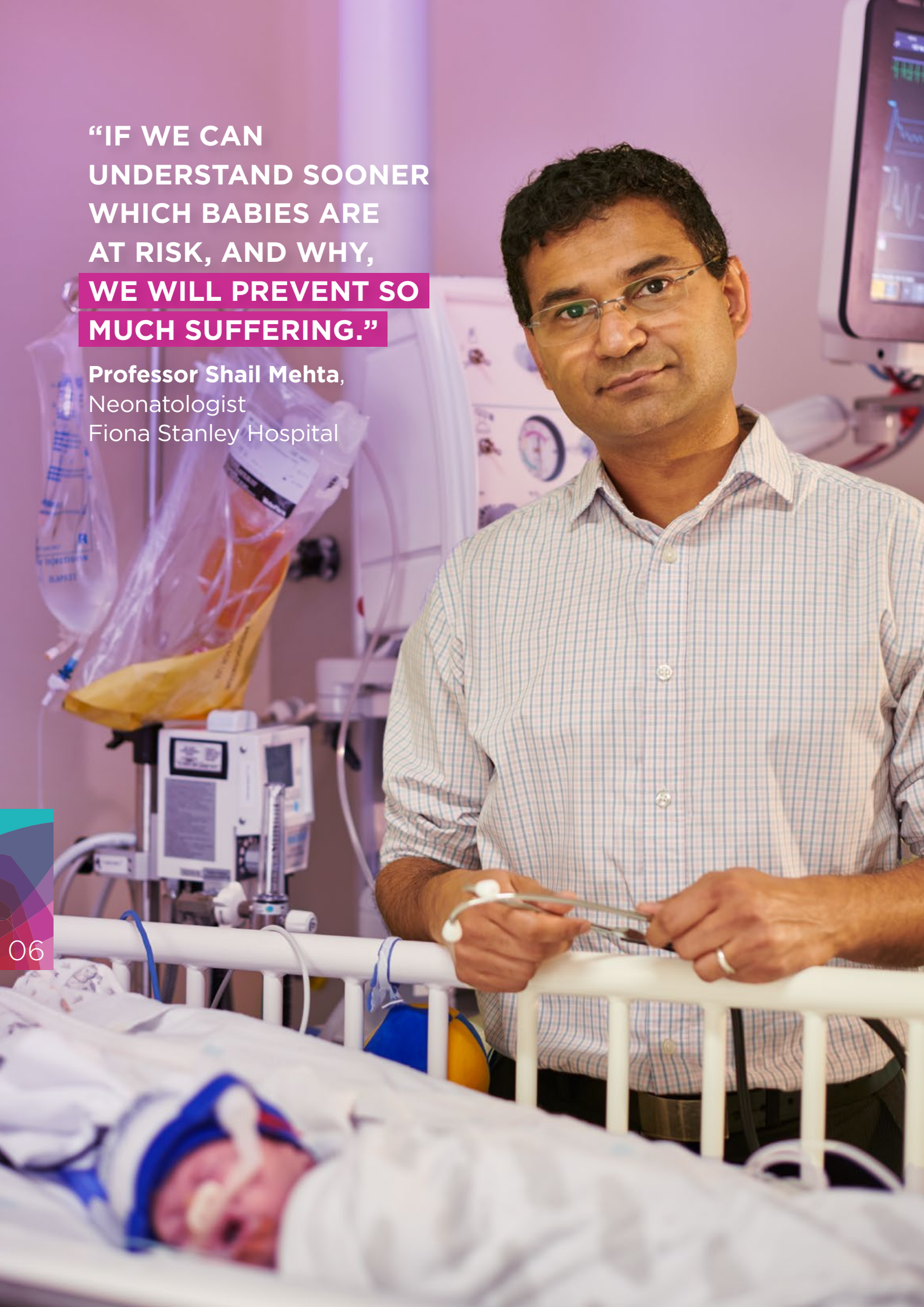
A woman with long dark hair, wearing a light blue long-sleeved top and black skirt, is performing an ultrasound. She is wearing blue gloves and has her hands on the ultrasound machine's control panel. The patient is lying down, and the ultrasound probe is visible. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**“SPINNAKER
LOOKS OUT FOR
THE LITTLE ONES,
LIKE US.”**

Dr Lena Thin,
Gastroenterologist,
Fiona Stanley Hospital

**“IF WE CAN
UNDERSTAND SOONER
WHICH BABIES ARE
AT RISK, AND WHY,
WE WILL PREVENT SO
MUCH SUFFERING.”**

Professor Shail Mehta,
Neonatologist
Fiona Stanley Hospital



CEO REPORT



DANA HENDERSON
CEO

I am very pleased to report that this past year has been an exceptional one for us, a year of growth, prosperity, and opportunity.

That is not to say that it has not been without its challenges however if the previous year taught us nothing else it taught us resilience. We have continued to collectively grapple with the challenges of the global pandemic and whereas last financial year we were coming to terms with rapid lockdowns, uncertainty and new ways of working, this year we needed to adapt to the reality of the virus at work and in our homes.

We also have not been immune to the emotional toll of 2 years of flux, isolation, uncertainty, and good dose of fear. It is a privileged position in which we then sit, the position of medical research, as we are able to provide a response, a reassurance, a remedy as we get on with the critical task of translational research to enhance our knowledge and improve the health of our community. It is through the pursuit of pioneering knowledge that we can best respond and with thanks to our generous donors, this past

year we have been able to do that with tremendous success.

In the past financial year we raised a record amount of money allowing us to award our greatest amount of annual grants and funding for first-in-WA equipment.

None of this would have been possible without the tremendous effort of our small but mighty team, the commitment of our Trustee Directors, the dedication of our many voluntary committee members and of course, most importantly, the generosity of our donors.

In November last year, we gathered together our wonderful community of supporters to celebrate the award of four Early Career Research Grants and four Seed Grants which all have the potential to translate to pioneering treatments at our partner hospitals in south metropolitan Perth within the next few years. Across the spectrum of clinical and allied health, each of these grants demonstrates the innovative pursuit of excellence we have come to expect from our dedicated hospital teams and I look forward to sharing the progress of the projects as they come to fruition.

This past year we also launched the inaugural Janine Chalwell Grants for melanoma research, The Edith Cowan University Discoverer Grant, the Fewster Family Grant, and the Nicholas Way Fund for early career research. Each of these new grants demonstrate the commitment and passion of our community which seeks to innovate with us and find new ways to tackle unmet needs. It is honour to be able to work side by side with our donors and assist them in realising their own dedication to a better health future for their loved ones and their community.

One such person springs immediately to mind; a lovely lady called Kath. Kath was invited as a

guest to our Award Night this year and listened with intent as I spoke of the ambition of Prof Yuben Moodley to pioneer the reparation of lung cells through 3D bioprinting technology. Kath approached me after the ceremony and said she would like to help us achieve this ambition by making a generous gift. A few short months later we were able to purchase that equipment, the first of its kind in Western Australia, and allow Prof Moodley to commence his pioneering journey of discovery.

It has also been a year of great celebration, achieving the milestone of 25 Years. As the team and I prepared for the gala celebration event we poured through archives, records, documents, and photographs, making many discoveries along the way. Our greatest discovery was the extensive list of donors who gave to us in 1996 when we were but a twinkle in our founder's eye and continue to give today. I want to make a special mention at this point of two of those amazing people, Len and Fran Mihaljevich. A generous, gracious, humble couple who have dedicated themselves to hard work and kind support of their local community. I know, because they have told me, that the annual gift they make is a highlight of their year and they are so proud of what they have been able to give back, and give forward. Len and Fran, we are so very proud of you and deeply value your support, your friendship and your generosity.

I hope you enjoy reading this year's report which provides but a snapshot of the remarkable year it was. If there is more that I can share with you please, as always, feel comfortable to contact me and I will take great delight in sharing more stories with you.

PIONEERING EXCELLENCE FOR BETTER HEALTH

Mission Statement: Together, we can improve community health outcomes in Western Australia through investment in ground-breaking innovations and community-to-bench translational medical research

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Spinnaker Health Research Foundation is an independent charitable trust, administered by a corporate trustee, which was founded in 1996 at Fremantle Hospital. The Foundation is governed by a board of Western Australian business leaders who voluntarily commit their expertise and is supported by a Scientific Advisory Committee comprised of leaders in clinical and academic research. The Foundation is managed by a small executive team based at both Fiona Stanley and Fremantle Hospitals

As Western Australia grows and our community changes and develops, there is an increasing need for innovative health solutions that serve our community. And while Western Australia has the talent and the capabilities to deliver translational life-changing real-world care, we have a gap in ensuring early, trailblazing projects receive the funding they need.

SPINNAKER BOARD



Andrew Friars
Chairman and
Director



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and Director



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Director



Brad Thomason
Director



Jenny Rachmat
Director



Mark Balfour
Director



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SPINNAKER TEAM



Dana Henderson
Chief Executive Officer



Sarah Taylor
Partnerships
Development Manager



Claire Dobbs-Evans
Business Support Officer

OUR PATRONS



**Professor
Barry Marshall AC**
Nobel Laureate



**The Honourable
Kim Beazley AC**
Governor of
Western Australia

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Professor Jim Codde, Chair

Director – Institute for Health Research,
University of Notre Dame Australia

Professor John Olynyk

Medical Research Theme Lead-
Edith Cowan University, Consultant
Gastroenterology & Hepatologist – Fiona
Stanley and Fremantle Hospitals &
Professor, School of Medical and Health
Sciences – Edith Cowan University

Professor Sue Fletcher AO

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Medicine and Innovative Therapies,
Murdoch University, Professor at Perron
Institute, Chief Scientific Officer at PYC
Therapeutics

Clory Carello

Chief Executive Officer, Cockburn
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Clinical Research Director SMHS, Head
of Neurology – Fiona Stanley Hospital
& Foundation Chair of Neurology, joint
appointment, Murdoch University,
University of Notre Dame Australia and
Fiona Stanley Hospital

Adjunct Professor Chris Judkins

Cardiologist – Fiona Stanley Hospital &
Adjunct Professor – University of Notre
Dame Australia

Associate Professor Dale Edgar

Senior Physiotherapist – Fiona Stanley
Hospital & Head, Burn Injury Research Node
– University of Notre Dame Australia

Professor Alison Jones

Director of Medical Education – Fiona
Stanley & Fremantle Hospital

Dr Andrew Redfern

Clinical Academic Oncologist, UWA Medical
School, University of Western Australia,
Consultant Medical Oncologist, South
Metropolitan Health Service, Medical
Director, Linear Clinical Research, Associate
Director, Harry Perkins Institute of Medical
Research & Lead Clinician, Breast Tumour
Collaborative, WA Cancer & Palliative Care
Network

GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ron Bennetts

Finance, governance, risk management and
organisational change

Jane McNamara

Corporate affairs and communications

John Murray

Tax law, governance and not-for-profits

SPECIALIST ADVISORS

Professor John Olynyk

Consultant Gastroenterologist &
Hepatologist, SMHS Professor, School of
Medical and Health Sciences, ECU

Professor David Fletcher

Clinical Staff Representative, Fiona Stanley
and Fremantle Hospitals Group

FOR 25 YEARS WE HAVE INVESTED IN WORLD-LEADING SOLUTIONS TO CRITICAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.

Here are some of the highlights.

Dr Judith Collett grant

We wanted to better understand the prevalence of Coeliac Disease in the community.

Dr Lindsay Mollison grant

We were curious to see if Chinese medicine could treat hepatitis.

Prof Tim Davis grant

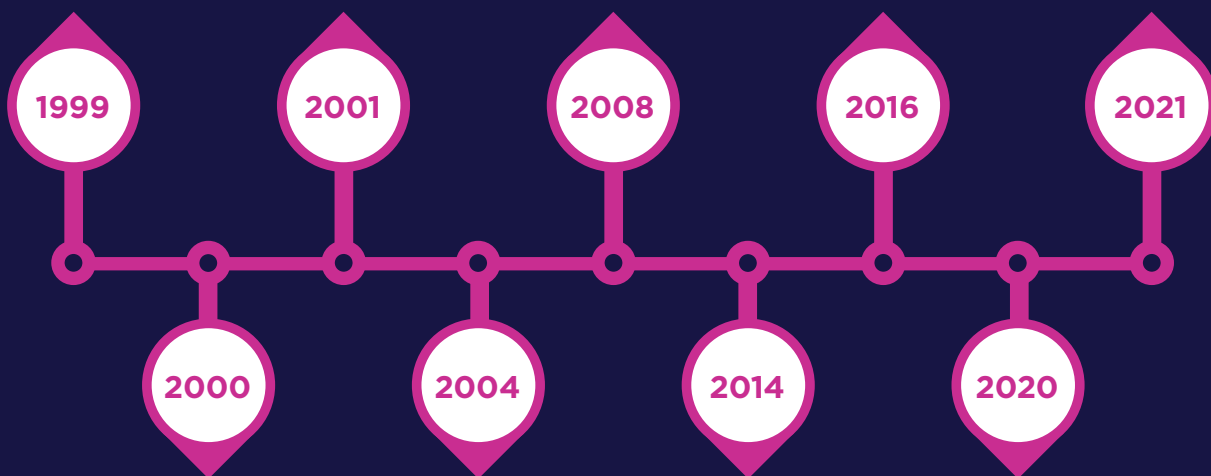
We investigated why older people with diabetes are so prone to dementia.

Prof Eric Visser grant

We explored a new treatment for chronic migraine sufferers.

Janine Chalwell Grants

We launched WA's first dedicated melanoma research grants.



Dr Steve Kisely grant

We tested ways to reduce smoking in people with mental illness.

A/Prof Rachael Moorin grant

We investigated ways to reduce the harm of radiotherapy.

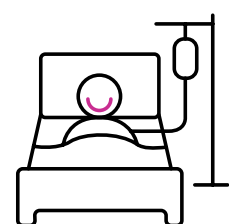
Prof Wendy Davis grant

We looked into the relationship between mental health and diabetes.

Australian National Phenome Centre grant

We joined the global fight against COVID-19.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DONATE TO SPINNAKER



RESEARCH FOCUS



TELETHON

SPINNAKER HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION JOIN TELETHON AS A BENEFICIARY!

We are thrilled to announce that we have received funding From Channel 7 Telethon Trust to support pioneering research into the prevalence of childhood fatty liver.

Fatty liver is one of the early markers in long-term health problems such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and chronic liver disease. The

longer young people stay with undiagnosed fatty liver, the more severe the impact and consequences for that child.

We are so grateful to Telethon Trust and the many West Australians that donate to Telethon each year to have received two grants to support projects that are foundation research for our Family Health research initiative. The grants we received allowed us to purchase of a Fibrosan S+ probe which will be used for child health assessments at Fiona Stanley Hospital and to support research into childhood fatty liver disease. The Fibroscope coupled with the funded research means we have the capacity for early identification and intervention for fatty liver and fibrosis in children.

The Fibroscope is a non-invasive piece of equipment used for measuring the amount of fat in

the liver of overweight and obese children and will be integral to the Healthy Start intervention led by Dr Shail Mehta. This Fibroscope will be shared between Fiona Stanley and Cockburn Community Health allowing researchers from Murdoch University, Curtin University, UWA and ECU to maximise health outcomes for the community.

The second grant will support Dr Oyekoya Ayonrinde's research into the prevalence and health implications of early detected fatty liver disease in children. This study will assist clinicians in identifying characteristics of those children at highest risk of cardiometabolic disease who would benefit from targeted interventions.

This research is a first for our West Australian children and we anticipate it will lead to new models of assessment and care for all children.

LYDIA WARBURTON

Dr Lydia Warburton has been awarded the inaugural Janine Chalwell Innovation Grant for melanoma research.

She was absolutely overjoyed and as a member of a small team here in WA fighting for better understanding, and ultimately a cure, for melanoma, she was incredibly grateful to the many donors to the Janine Chalwell Fund.

We asked Dr Warburton why this grant was so important to her.

What does this research mean for your patients?

Australia has one of the highest rates of melanoma in the world. Melanoma is the third

most common cancer affecting men and women in Australia, with an estimated 1300 deaths per year. Over 50% of patients diagnosed with stage IV melanoma still succumb to the disease within five years. Immune modulating drugs have improved the outlook for melanoma patients but for more than half-immunotherapy does not lead to durable disease control. Our proposed research aims to validate a test which predicts who will respond to immunotherapy. The ability to select patients who will not respond to treatment will lead to reduced unnecessary toxicity and financial burden. It is hoped that by identifying patients who

will not respond to the standard treatment – we can tailor other treatments – leading to improved survival and outcomes. Dissemination of research such as this can lead to new and better methods which ultimately benefit patients. For my patients, it is an opportunity to participate in exciting innovative research that has the potential to help others in the future. For them, the ability to contribute and participate in research is rewarding and provides them with a feeling of contributing for future patients and honouring those who have died.

What does this grant mean to you and your team?

Translational research forms the backbone of progress in medical oncology. To realise the promise of personalised cancer medicine, we need to understand which patients will respond to which treatments. This grant allows our team to validate our 21 gene expression panel associated with response to treatment. It will allow us to determine if the panel can accurately predict whether a patient will respond to immunotherapy treatment for advanced melanoma.

It further supports the important work that our lab is doing in progressing liquid biopsies from the lab bench to bedside.



PROFESSOR BU YEAP'S RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT TESTOSTERONE TREATMENT ON TOP OF A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE PROGRAM REDUCED THE RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES BY 40%.

"THAT'S FOUR-ZERO. A HUGE IMPACT!"

Professor Bu Yeap, Endocrinologist Fiona Stanley Hospital

RESEARCH GRANTS – RECORD AMOUNT AWARDED FOR 2022 GRANTS, OVER \$250,000!

It is because of the generosity of our donors that we were able to award a record amount for 2022 grants of over \$250,000! This year saw us award the first Janine Chalwell Grants and Edith Cowan University partnership Grant.

PROJECT TITLE	CHIEF INVESTIGATOR	DONOR
Septic shock and the gut microbiome in critically ill adults: A prospective cohort study	Dr Tess Evans Intensive Care Registrar, Fiona Stanley Hospital	SMHS Staff giving for Spinnaker Grant
The changing epidemiology of fatty liver in regional Australia - a cohort study	Dr Raj Uchila Consultant Gastroenterologist, SMHS	Len and Fran Mihaljevich
Stroke survivors and carers' experiences of modified constraint-induced movement therapy in an early-supported discharge rehabilitation service	Mr Ashan Weerakkody Senior Physiotherapist- Neurology/Stroke, SMHS	Fremantle Hospital Ladies Auxiliary
Dulaglutide or semaglutide and Vascular Inflammation in Coronary Ischaemia; a Positron Emission Tomography Study (DAVINI-PET)	Dr Nick Lan Trainee Registrar- Cardiology, Fiona Stanley Hospital	Austal Company and Staff
Identification of risk stratification and prognostic biomarkers by using the GeoMx digital spatial profiler for patients with Barrett's oesophagus	Dr Puraskar Pateria Consultant Gastroenterologist, Fiona Stanley Hospital	David Clegg
Acquisition of skin and gut microbiota in neonates born via water-birth (AQUA STUDY)	Prof Shailander Mehta Consultant Paediatric Neonatologist, Fiona Stanley Hospital	The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
Determining factors that underpin cardiovascular disease risk in young adults with fatty liver diagnosed during adolescence ten years earlier – a longitudinal cohort study	Dr Oyekoya Ayonrinde Consultant Gastroenterologist, Fiona Stanley Hospital	The City of Cockburn
The use of AI in the analysis of video otoscopic images of the tympanic membrane to aid in the diagnosis of ear disorders – a pilot study	Dr Jafri Kuthubutheen ENT Consultant, SMHS	The Rotary Club of Fremantle and Attadale
Extracellular Vesicles Profiling as a Signature of Response to Immunotherapy	Dr Lydia Warburton Medical Oncology Consultant, Fiona Stanley Hospital	Janine Chalwell Innovation Grant 2022
Multimodal Liquid biopsy to Predict Response of Melanoma to Immuno-Oncology	A/Prof Elin Gray A/Prof of Cancer Research and Deputy Director of the ECU Strategic Research Centre for Precision Health	Janine Chalwell Gift 2022
The Effect of Dietary Resistant Starch on Maternal Glycaemia and the Gut Microbiome in Gestational Diabetes.	Mrs Cathy Latino Senior Dietitian, Fiona Stanley Hospital	ECU Spinnaker Explorers Grant 2022





Spinnaker Awards 2022 Grant recipients: (above from left) Dr Lydia Warburton, A/Prof Elin Gray, Dr Raj Uchila, Dr Puraskar Pateria, Dr Ed Litton receiving on behalf of Dr Tess Evans, Cathy Latino, Dr Dayse Tavora-Vieira receiving on behalf of Dr Jafri Kuthubutheen, Mr Ashan Weerakkody, Prof Shailander Meththa, Professor Bu Yeap receiving on behalf of Dr Nick Lan and Dr Oyekoya Ayonrinde.



Celebrating the extraordinary contribution made by all in the Spinnaker Community to progress medical research in WA.



RESEARCH STORIES

PREGCOVAC

This study aimed to explore pregnant women's perceptions, attitudes and knowledge of vaccination against COVID-19 during pregnancy and ascertain the actual vaccine uptake rate.

Prior to this study, there was paucity of data available in WA to know the exact number of pregnant women currently vaccinated. To our knowledge, this is the largest study of its kind in Australia, exploring pregnant women's perceptions, attitudes and knowledge of vaccination against COVID-19 during

pregnancy and to ascertain the vaccine uptake rate in the state, contemporaneous to community spread in Western Australia.

The conclusion found vaccination was accepted widely within our study population. WA has excelled with uptake of the vaccination across all age, social, religious and ethnic groups.

There were minimally reported side effects from the vaccine, and these were reported as mild. In the exploration of women's attitudes, safety concerns drive the adversity to the vaccine. Optimising the uptake rate remains a priority

for this vulnerable cohort to continuously improve maternal and neonatal outcomes.

Information gained from this study can be used to further encourage hesitant women with the positive data. The discrepancy of information given amongst groups could demonstrate a need to address cultural competency amongst staff, furthering staff education and ensuring a diverse workforce. Further studies examining such interventions are warranted to confirm any influence of these strategies on the vaccine uptake by pregnant women.

INTERVIEW WITH PREGCOVAC STUDY PARTICIPANT: MONICA YOUNG

How did you feel during the study?

Monica: I was happy to be a part of the Pregcovac study, which was aimed to explore pregnant women's perceptions, attitudes and knowledge of the vaccination against COVID-19 during pregnancy and ascertain the actual vaccine uptake rate. I felt valued that this study explored mum's feelings and emotions during the pregnancy and believe that future mums were informed about the whole process.

Was it a long process and simple to complete?

Monica: It really helped that the survey was quick and easy, had a total of fifteen questions and took less than two minutes to complete.

How did you hear about the study?

Monica: A research midwife at Fiona Stanley Hospital emailed a cross-sectional survey to me as I was a maternity patient there.



Monica, Emma and Nicole.

Anything you would like to add regarding the study?

Monica: Yes, I would like to add that my GP at Lakes Medical in South Lake, found the educational webinars with the hospital's gynaecologist on the COVID-19 vaccination and the Pregcovac study extremely useful, it was clear these sessions educated GPs on the findings of the study.

Thank you Monica and Emma, for coming to see us at the hospital, and to share your participant story.

ADORED study

The rising rates of allergic diseases in children are a public health priority. Atopic dermatitis (also called eczema) is a chronic inflammatory skin condition that affects over 30,000 preschool aged Western Australian children. 1 in 4 infants develop atopic dermatitis each year (i.e. approximately 7,500 infants in WA), which is often the first sign of an underlying disruption of normal immune tolerance that can also lead to food allergy, allergic rhinitis and asthma. Food allergy rates have risen steadily over the past 30 years, with an estimated 1 in 10 infants in Australia (3,000 per year in WA) developing a food allergy. While some allergies resolve, there is on average at least 1 child in every primary school classroom with a persistent food allergy.

The gut microbiome is known to play a key role in early immune development, but further research is needed to understand the link between the microbiome of individual infants with sentinel clinical outcomes such as atopic dermatitis and allergic sensitisation to progress from population-based observational research into meaningful changes to clinical practice.



(L- R) Malcolm, Valerie, Malcolm, Nicole and Shail.

This study (ADORED) is hoping to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of a special probiotic product (healthy bacteria). It is an oral capsule containing powder which will be mixed with a small amount of breastmilk, formula, or a milk product to be given to the participant. We are testing this investigational product for the prevention of allergic diseases, including atopic dermatitis (eczema), food allergy, asthma, and allergic rhinitis (hay fever). This study is to test the safety and tolerability of the administration of specific healthy bacteria to newborns who may be at risk of developing allergic diseases due to their families having allergy history. The type of bacteria in the human gut during infancy may affect the development of allergies and/or asthma later in life. This research is being conducted by Siolta Therapeutics and sponsored in Australia by Siolta Therapeutics Australia. Dr Shail Mehta, neonatologist and Dr Michael O'Sullivan, Paediatric Immunologist, are the local investigators in Western Australia for this international study across Australia and United States.

INTERVIEW WITH ADORED STUDY PARTICIPANT: VALERIE RYAN

ADORED study

How old were you when you were diagnosed with your allergies?

Valerie: I was 14 years old, after multiple tests and ongoing doctor appointments it took years.

What does it mean to you being part of the ADORED study?

Valerie: It is so meaningful to be part of a long-term study, as this will play a key role in speeding up diagnosis, and to understand the effects of the allergies, and gut health for my baby and future generations earlier.

How long will you be participating in the study?

Valerie: When my newborn arrives, we will be included in the study which will be monitored over 2 years for development of any allergy using many specialised tests.

Thank you, Val and Malcolm, for coming to see us at the hospital, and to share your participant story. We look forward to following the ongoing ADORED study!

DONOR FOCUS, WHERE GENEROSITY KNOWS NO BOUNDS

3D BIOPRINTER: THE FIRST IN WA FOR LUNG DISEASE RESEARCH.

With generous funding from our donors matched by Spinnaker, this year we purchased the very first 3D Bioprinter for lung research here in WA, led by respiratory specialist A/Professor Yuben Moodley. The bioprinter, housed at the laboratory in Harry Perkins South, will print 3D models of lung tissue, facilitating examinations of the complex structure of the lung. **This research will benefit all lung disease including lung fibrosis, cystic fibrosis, and emphysema.**

THE PIONEERING POTENTIAL OF 3D BIOPRINTING FOR LUNG DISEASE

Pulmonary disease is now the third leading cause of death globally so there is an urgent need to better understand the pathophysiological mechanisms of lung conditions. 3D printing is fast emerging as a pioneering technology with the potential to help us better understand the complex anatomy of lungs.

The long-term goal of this technology is to reproduce the lung in its entirety, serving as a way to rehabilitate patients

by way of an artificial breathing system while the lungs repair and heal. **Ultimately, the 3D printed lung could be a replacement technology for the transplant of organs.**

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our donors, and an incredible \$10,000 gift from one amazing person. Kath Wales was determined to act after hearing Spinnaker CEO talk about A/Prof Moodley's ambitious dream. Kath's father was a highly regarded pioneer of early IVF research. She had seen first-hand the powerful impact of her father's commitment to research on a generation of parents who would not otherwise have realised their dream of parenthood.

Kath's generosity and passion has provided critical seed investment to commence this world-leading research here in WA. We hope that with the support of other like-minded donors we can continue to invest in this area of research.

A/Prof Moodley's vision for printing lungs sits at the core of our ethos to invest in the big, world-changing ideas. We are so grateful to Kath, and all our donors who enable us to take great strides to improve patient care and ultimately save lives.

NEW FUND ESTABLISHED FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

This year we were very pleased to launch The Nicholas Way Fund to provide much needed top-up funding to previous recipients of a Spinnaker Early Career Research grant. The annual fund will offer four grants of (up to) \$5,000 and has been established by Professor Sue Fletcher AO who is passionate about creating successful pathways for early career researchers.

The fund will give the bright young sparks of today the opportunity to help make a better tomorrow.

Prof Fletcher is a senior



Nicholas Way

principal research fellow at Murdoch University, an adjunct professor and lecturer at the University of Western Australia and continues her neuromuscular research alongside research in other muscle diseases, neurodegenerative disease and Inherited Retinal Dystrophies.

In 2021, Prof Fletcher was awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service

to medical research, to neurological science, and to the treatment and support of those with Muscular Dystrophy.

The fund is named after local journalist, Nicholas Way. Nicholas has enjoyed a successful, international media career. He spent many years reporting locally and from Indonesia, Thailand, India, Singapore and South Africa for Channel 10 in WA, including covering the Bali bombings in 2002. He was awarded the esteemed WA Clarion Prize and the National Prize for the Federal Government. In 2012 Nicholas established his own business, continuing to produce pieces for television and advising the WA State Government.

In 2019 Nicholas was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease and came under the care of Dr Merrilee Needham who works closely with Prof Sue Fletcher. Inspired by Nicholas' tenacity in the face of the adverse effects of the disease, and his motivation to continue his career and passions, Prof Fletcher established the Fund to honour his drive and encourage early researchers to commit to their passion and purpose.

We feel extremely proud and lucky to have Prof Fletcher as a part of our Scientific Advisory Committee and honoured to have been chosen as the charity of choice to represent the Nicholas Way Fund.

SPINNAKER IN THE COMMUNITY

ARTS COMPETITION WINNER

This year, in conjunction with our long-term partner The City of Fremantle, we launched a community project art competition in celebration of our 25-year anniversary, and Fremantle Hospital's 125th birthday.

The winning artwork, The Holding by Natalie Scholtz (seen on the cover of this Annual Review) was selected in collaboration with the City of Fremantle Community Development team. Special gift cards featuring the design are now available for purchase in local shops and through Spinnaker, with proceeds going towards medical research in WA.

25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY DINNER

To honour Spinnaker's 25th anniversary we held a beautiful dinner with guest speakers including our patron and Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall. Professor Marshall is a revolutionary whose research led to easy treatment of ulcers, significantly reducing stomach cancer causes around the world.

The dinner was an evening of celebration which saw our long-standing donors, researchers, patrons, sponsors, Spinnaker directors and staff come together to celebrate 25 years of health research, progress and development.

AWARDS CEREMONY

In 2021 we enjoyed a magnificent awards ceremony, honouring the hard work of our grant recipients and our wonderful donors who make our world-changing research possible.

Keynote speaker Professor Nina Tirnitz-Parker, Research Academic and Head of the Liver Disease and Regeneration Group in the Curtin Medical School and Liver Cancer Program Lead at the Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute, captivated the audience with the story of how small seed funding at the start of her career has led to her present role as a highly acclaimed and award-winning researcher.

HOSPITAL TOURS

This year we have held three hospital tours through several incredible



Professor Jeremy Nicholson with Hon Stephen Pratt MLC at the ANPC laboratories.

departments; neonatology, Intensive Care, Hyperbaric chambers, and the world-leading Covid intensive care facilities at Fiona Stanley Hospital.

Spinnaker joined Hon Stephen Pratt, Prof Jeremy Nicholson, Prof Elaine Holmes and members of the Australian Phenome Centre for a tour of the exceptional ANPC laboratories. It was a great opportunity to better understand the application of phenomics and the future of personalised medicine in the most advanced technological laboratory in the world.

Thanks to Stephen Pratt and his electoral office for the interest he is taking in medical research in WA. We look forward to working with him to advocate for increase funding for the benefit of our community.

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT



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To all of our donors, every cent makes a difference in our fight against disease. **THANK YOU.**

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CELEBRATING AN ENDURING PARTNERSHIP

This year's golf day donation of \$24,824.78 brings the total funds contributed by Fremantle Rotary to the Foundation to \$264,657.33! We are extremely grateful to our wonderful Rotary Club members for their hard work and incredible, continuing support.



Fremantle and Attadale Rotary Club Members with Sarah

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RACE TO DISCOVER A
BETTER TOMORROW.**

For Further Information:

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