The Deakin - Southern Health Nursing Research Centre was established in 2006 with the appointment of Professor Bev O’Connell, as Chair, Deakin – Southern Health Chair in Nursing. The purpose of this appointment was to provide professional leadership in the areas of nursing research and practice across Deakin University and Southern Health. This partnership has resulted in the development of the Deakin - Southern Health Nursing Research Centre which is based at Monash Medical Centre, Clayton Campus. The Nursing Research Centre conducts research activities across all Southern Health sites.

The objectives of the Deakin - Southern Health Nursing Research Centre are to conduct a research program enhancing quality and patient safety through:

- Enhancing the independence and wellbeing of individuals in clinical and aged care settings
- Encouraging and supporting nurse clinicians to participate in research activities
- Promoting the integration of research findings into educational programs, health care policy and clinical practice
- Developing and supporting research collaboration between Southern Health, Deakin University and industry partners

This report provides an overview of the 2012 activities of the Deakin – Southern Health Nursing Research Centre.

Research Team

- Prof. Bev O’Connell: Chair in Nursing
- A/Prof Paul Bennett: Assoc. Professor in Nursing
- Dr Helen Rawson: Research Fellow
- Dr Prabha Lakhan: Research Fellow
- Cherene Ockerby: Research Assistant
- Dr Mary Hawkins: Research Analyst
- Tasneem Islam: Research Assistant
- Sadie Jaeschke: Project Manager
- Catherine Au: Research Assistant
- Joan Ostaszewicz: Research Fellow
- Tania Cosich: Research Fellow
- David McMillan: Project Officer
- Cheryl Turner: Project Officer
- Rose Lewis: PA/Administration
## QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY

### Aged Care

**Centre for Innovation and Education in Aged Care**

O’Connell, B., Forbes, H., & Hills, D.

This project has developed a ‘Centre for Innovation and Education in Aged Care’ with the aim of educating and supporting residential aged care staff to deliver quality evidence-based care that meets Australian Accreditation Standards and improves the wellbeing of residents.

**Nursing management of behaviours of concern in residential aged care facilities**

O’Connell, B., Lakhan, P., Ostaszkiewicz, J., & Hawkins, M.

This project will obtain information on practices used by nurses and the challenges they experience in managing behaviours of concern. It will identify the extent to which knowledge related to managing behaviours of concern is translated into practice.

**Reasons for referral from residential aged care facilities to hospital emergency departments**

Hawkins, M., O’Connell, B., Considine, J., & Au, C.

This activity explores the reasons older people living in residential aged care present to emergency departments.

**The patient experience of rehabilitation aged care services: The untold story**

Keenan, C., & Bennett, P.N.

This study explores the patient care experience of the person undergoing rehabilitation care in order to inform clinical service strategies and initiatives.

### The Tri-focal Model of Care: Teaching and Research Aged Care Services (TRACS)

O’Connell, B., Lakhan, P., & Hawkins, M.

This project further develops the Teaching Nursing Home model to include multidisciplinary and interprofessional learning and training opportunities that could form the basis of a TRACS hub in aged care and to develop a structure and process to incorporate more multidisciplinary research as part of everyday activities.

### Evidence Based Practice

**Construct validity and reliability of the Handover Evaluation Scale**

O’Connell, B., Ockerby, C., & Hawkins, M.

This study is an analysis of data collected from two previous studies which used the Handover Evaluation Scale. This analysis aims to refine the items and establish the psychometric properties of the Handover Evaluation Scale.

**Non-slip socks to reduce falls risk**

Bennett, P.N., Au, C., Ockerby, C., Ferrier, S., & Bums, D.

This study explores the role of non-slip socks in preventing hospital falls.

**Organisational Safety Climate**

Bennett, P.N., Ockerby, C., Stinson, J., & Wilcocks, K.

Safety culture and falls prevention culture among health staff is being explored to provide benchmark data in order to guide and improve falls prevention strategies.

**Standardising Dialysate to increase dialysis patient safety**

Abeleda, K., Bennett, P.N., & Ockerby, C.

This study examines the effect of standardising dialysate potassium for all dialysis treatments.

**Structured Interdisciplinary Bedside Rounding (SIBR)**

Redley, B., Bennett P.N., Chalmers, C., & Au, C.

SIBR is an innovative approach to ward rounds designed to promote patient engagement and participation in care delivery and support timely, patient-centred interprofessional communication, problem solving and decision making. This pilot will test a range of tools and methods proposed for a framework to monitor and evaluate SIBR.
### Workforce Development

**Evaluation of the Nurse Endoscopist Service**
Au, C., Chalmers, C., Home, N., Forrest, K., Ockerby, C., & Bennett, P.N.
This project will evaluate the Health Workforce Australia multi-site project to develop the nurse endoscopist role.

**Exercise physiologists improving the physical function of people on dialysis: a step-wedge cluster randomised controlled trial**
Bennett, P.N., Kent, B., Daly, R., Fraser, S., Haines, T., & Bamard, B.
This trial will test the effect of an intradialytic resistance exercise program developed by exercise physiologists for dialysis patients.

**Home Dialysis Therapiess E-Learning (HDTEL)**
Bennett, P.N., Sinclair, P., Schoch, M., Kerr, P., Holt, S., & Jaeschke, S.
This project is developing, testing and disseminating web-based home dialysis therapies education packages.

**Nursing care assignment and delivery in acute care settings**
O'Connell, B., Ockerby, C., & Lakhan, P.
This project investigates the ways senior nurses decide how nurses are assigned their patients for each shift and the ways in which nurses work together to deliver patient care.

**Nurse Engagement**
Rogerson, K., Ockerby, C., Hawkins, M., O'Connell, B., & Kent, B.
This study measures the level of nurse engagement comparing the US Nursing Engagement Survey with an Australian sample to determine its local application.

**Southern Health Nursing Governance**
Bennett, P.N., Begbie, J., Ockerby, C., & O'Connell, B.
This study measures the level of professional nursing governance using the Index of Professional Nursing Governance.

### Chronic Disease

**Can you laugh your way to happiness? Laughter Yoga as a novel approach to helping people at risk for depression**
Weinberg, M., Bennett, P.N., & Cummins, B.
This study explores Laughter Yoga claims in both a clinical setting and a high-pressure workplace.

**Decreasing Cannulation extravasation pain using Amica cream: A pilot study**
Bennett, P.N., Goedemans, A., Liang, K., & Cottell, B.
This study explores the effect of Amica cream on dialysis cannulation related extravasation.

**Education for haemodialysis patients' phosphate binder medication adherence**
Sandlin, K., Bennett, P.N., Corridini, A.M., & Ockerby, C.
This study examines the impact of a nurse-led education intervention on bone disorder markers, adherence to phosphate binder medication and medication knowledge.

**Self management strategy to improve fluid adherence for people receiving haemodialysis**
P.N. Bennett, Andrew, J., Nandikumar, J., Bonner, A., Cranbourne Dialysis Centre.
This study explores the Communications Compatibility System approach on nurse-patient communication in the haemodialysis context.

**Subjective wellbeing of people with chronic kidney disease**
Bennett, P.N., Weinberg, P., & Cummins, B.
This project measures the subjective wellbeing of people with end-stage kidney disease on dialysis and investigates associations between subjective wellbeing, depression, anxiety and stress.

### Toileting assistance programs for the management of urinary incontinence in adults

**Zumba Gold® to improve physical function for people on haemodialysis**
Bennett, P.N., Corradini, A., Branley, P., Ockerby, C., & Cossich, T.
This study explores the feasibility of implementing a modified ZUMBA GOLD® program for patients with end-stage kidney disease on haemodialysis.

### Current Higher Degree Students

Emily Heke. Honours, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Glenn Eastwood. PhD, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Jacqui Moustakas. Masters, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Joan Ostaszewicz. PhD, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Lana Tutin. PhD, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Rachel Cross. Masters, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Wendi Bradshaw. Masters, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
Yolanda Grove. Co-supervisor Masters, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Deakin University
2012 Publications

Batt, J., Linton, K., & Bennett, P.N. Home haemodialysis: A successful option for obese and bariatric people with end stage kidney disease. Haemodialysis International. 16, S1, S26-S31


