



UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA

WICKING
Dementia Research & Education Centre



Annual Report | 2016



Introduction

Dementia is currently the second leading cause of death in Australia and there is no cure. There are over 350,000 Australians living with dementia and without a medical breakthrough, the number of people living with this condition is expected to increase to over 900,000 by 2050. Globally, there are approximately 46.8 million people living with dementia – with an estimated economic impact of around US\$818 billion. These numbers increase every year. With prevalence set to escalate, dementia is a major focus of health and social care across the globe.

The Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre (Wicking Centre) is one of the largest dementia-specific research centres in Australia, and the primary University provider of dementia education nationally with a growing profile internationally.

The Wicking Centre's work aims to help address the significant public health issue of dementia. A leading multidisciplinary research and education centre, the Wicking Centre combines neurosciences and social sciences in unique translational research and educational programs.

Through education outreach and internationally competitive research, the Wicking Centre's aim is to improve the lives of people living with dementia, and their carers. Research themes focus on the Care, Cause and Prevention of dementia, and these themes are closely embedded in educational offerings.

Care



Care research engages in innovative projects within complex care environments, in partnership with people living with dementia, their carers and families, aged care facilities, the community, and other care organisations.

Cause



Neuroscience research contributes to the increasing global understanding of dementia, focusing on two key areas; understanding the pathological changes in the brains of people with dementia and developing strategies to protect the nerve cells from degeneration.

Prevention



Prevention research focuses on understanding the risk factors for dementia and developing effective interventions such as later-life education to help people reduce their risk. Basic laboratory studies using transgenic animal models and adult stem cells are utilised to understand how risk factors may influence Alzheimer's disease.

Dementia is a syndrome which covers a spectrum of degenerative disorders and diseases.

It manifests as a progressive decline in functioning that affects:



cognitive skills



personality



behaviour

Executive summary

In 2003, the JO & JR Wicking Trust (now managed by Equity Trustees) awarded core funding for the Wicking Centre, with co-funding from the Faculty of Health, University of Tasmania. In addition, a range of research projects are funded from government and industry agencies, and other foundations.

2016 saw significant change for the Centre. As a result of the growth and impact of research and education programs, as of 1 January 2016, the Wicking Centre shifted from a Centre within the School of Medicine to the status of Faculty Centre. Structurally this situates the Wicking Centre alongside the two existing Faculty of Health Schools (Medicine and Health Sciences). Strategically, this provides the Centre with autonomy and flexibility in operations which in turn enhances capacity for innovation.

Developing a robust governance framework has been a key focus of the Wicking Centre's activities throughout 2016. A Senior Leadership Group has been established to build leadership capability, to support the Centre's strategic planning and development, to consolidate program delivery across key themes, and facilitate engagement with the University and the wider community.

The Wicking Centre remains unique in the University context, having a primary focus on a specific public health interest – dementia. The Centre is innovative in applying a highly multidisciplinary approach to driving improved dementia literacy through advanced educational offerings, being tied closely to the latest and best evidence.

Research

The Centre has continued to achieve success within each of its three research themes – Care, Prevention and Cause. This included the awarding of a \$950,000 National Health and Medical Research Centre (NHMRC) project grant and two \$550,000 NHMRC Research Fellowships. Further, Centre staff published 62 refereed academic papers, presented at a broad range of 37 national and 24 international conferences; and supervised graduate research candidates across a variety of projects.

Education

The Bachelor of Dementia Care continues to grow, and, in 2016, had over 1200 students enrolled – becoming the fourth largest award-course at the University of Tasmania. A key highlight of 2016 was the awarding of the inaugural Bachelor of Dementia Care degrees. Six students completed their degrees following Semester 1, 2016, becoming Australia's first Bachelor of Dementia Care graduates. By December this year, the Wicking Centre will have awarded 31 Bachelor Degrees, 45 Associate Degrees, and 204 Diplomas of Dementia Care – an important landmark in preparing the Australian workforce to better address the needs of people living with dementia,

and a significant milestone in the Australian tertiary education environment.

The Understanding Dementia Massive Open Online Course (UD MOOC) continues to attract record participation, with the fifth cohort completing in December 2016. In 2016 the course was rated in the 'Top 50 Online Courses Of All Time', a prestigious listing compiled by Class Central. A new MOOC – Preventing Dementia (PD MOOC), was launched by the Wicking Centre in June 2016. The end of 2016 sees the Wicking Centre's MOOC enrolments reach over 100,000 participants – positioning the Centre as one of the largest providers of dementia education in the world, and underpinning the global role in driving improvement in dementia literacy.



The total estimated worldwide costs of dementia were US \$815 billion in 2015

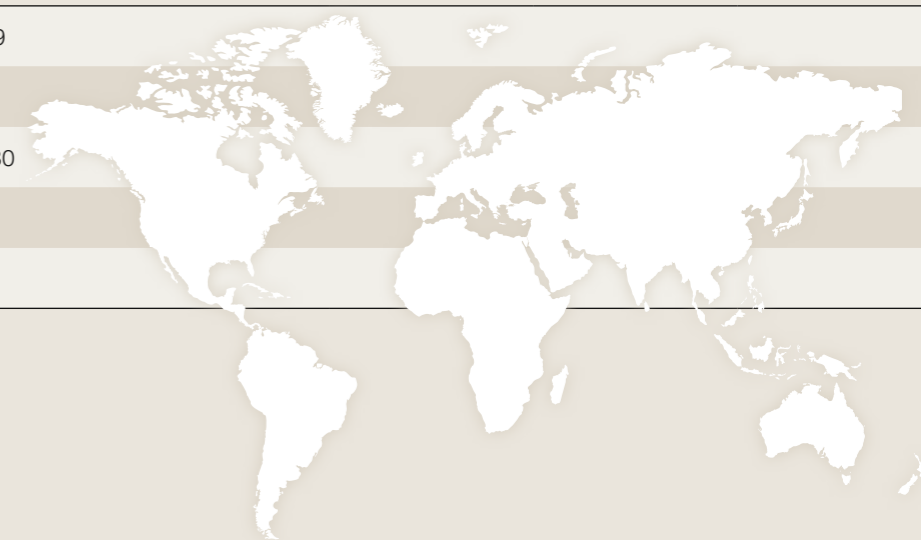
(REF: Alzheimer's Disease International (2015) The Global Impact of Dementia: An analysis of prevalence, incidence, cost and trends. World Alzheimer Report)

Summary of 2016 | Output

Research Outputs	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
New funding	\$5,469,068	\$2,833,462	\$2,374,291	\$3,857,969	\$1,567,116
Total funds managed	\$8,769,482	\$11,438,254	\$11,158,827	\$9,806,533	\$9,131,690
Research publications	70	63	43	27	26
Research students	33 PhD; 4 Hons	29 PhD; 6 Hons	21 PhD; 5 Hons	16 PhD; 6 Hons	15 PhD; 5 Hons

Bachelor of Dementia Care	2016	2015	2014
Total unit enrolments	6,361	5,089	4,992
EFTSL*	746	736	624
Graduands	31 Bachelors, 25 Associate Degrees, 118 Diplomas	20 Associate Degrees, 86 Diplomas	

Dementia MOOCs	To date
Understanding Dementia enrolments	90,589
Preventing Dementia enrolments	11,341
Total enrolments	101,930
Average completion rate	40%
Unique countries	172



*Equivalent Full Time Student Load

Research

In 2016, the Centre achieved competitive grant funding of \$5,469,068 from a range of funding bodies including the National Health and Medical Research Council, Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation, Dementia Collaborative Research Centres, BUPA Health Foundation, Australian Government Department of Health, Tasmanian Community Fund, Brain Foundation and General Practice Training Tasmania. In addition, previously awarded and currently ongoing funding amounts to over \$3,300,414 across existing projects.

The Wicking Centre carries out multidisciplinary research across three key themes; Cause, Prevention and Care.



Cause

In this theme, Wicking researchers utilise a number of cutting edge medical research tools to explore the underlying pathology of the major diseases that cause dementia. Current research using cultured cells, transgenic animal models and explorations of the human brain focus on how abnormal proteins form in Alzheimer's disease and frontotemporal dementia, and then also how these pathological changes may lead to the degeneration of neurons and the disruption of brain circuits. We are also exploring drug candidates that may prevent or slow the disease processes underlying dementia. In 2016 the Centre's researchers trialed a 'combination' drug therapy with the potential to reduce pathology and inflammation in Alzheimer's disease. Promising early results in this study have led to the filing of a provisional patent.

Prevention

The Tasmanian Healthy Brain Project is the flagship project of the Centre's research into the prevention of dementia. This longitudinal study aims to determine the role of later life education in reducing risk of dementia, and also how genetic risk factors may influence the impact of education as well as cognitive decline. In 2016, the study expanded to include establishing a bank of skin samples from Healthy Brain Project participants that are converted into adult stem cells, and then neural cells. This will allow researchers to study brain cells from our living participants, which will provide insight into genetic influences on brain plasticity and dementia risk. In other experimental studies with transgenic mouse models, Centre researchers have also determined that stress hormones may have a critical role in the development of Alzheimer's disease pathology, increasing risk of dementia, and that some stimulatory environments may augment this stress response leading to further increased pathology.

Managing stress and stressful environments may, therefore, be important in preventing the onset and progression of dementia.

Care

Research in Dementia Care comprises four interlinked domains of activity; care reform, learning organisations, dementia literacy and dementia friendly communities. The Centre's care research continues to build on the successful Teaching Aged Care Facilities program and addresses the need to provide excellence in care through innovative approaches to care delivery and building the capacity of the workforce through education, development of employee coping skills and organisational leadership. In collaboration with aged care providers, this research explores the nutritional, oral and respiratory care needs of residents in aged care and addresses the issue of collaborative care decision making. Improving dementia literacy in the health workforce and community is pivotal to improving the lives of people living with dementia and a key development this year has been the publication of the Dementia Knowledge Assessment Survey; a validated tool to evaluate dementia knowledge.

Bachelor of Dementia Care



Pictured from left: Suzanne Teague, Jillian Chisolm, Marcia Penn, Melisa Sincock, Evthoxia Lynch, (absent Janet Siversen). Image: Natalie Mendham photography

August 2016 saw a major milestone in dementia education with the inaugural Bachelor of Dementia Care degrees awarded. Six Wicking Centre students graduated with their Bachelor of Dementia Care degrees – the first ever of these degrees awarded at the University of Tasmania.

This degree is the first undergraduate dementia care degree in Australia. The program continues to transform the landscape of dementia education, and equip the aged care workforce for systematic change to better address the needs of people living with dementia.

This course is open to everyone, and the student cohort includes carers, health professionals, and people interested in learning more about dementia from a range of backgrounds. Students may graduate with a Diploma, Associate Degree or Bachelor of Dementia Care. Full time and part time study options are available and the course is fully online – providing flexibility in meeting students' needs. Future plans for the Wicking Centre include diversifying educational offerings to include postgraduate dementia education programs, as well as an Honours degree.



Dementia is the second leading cause of death in Australia, and there is no cure.

(REF: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2015) Causes of Death, Australia, 2013: Cat no. 3303.0)

"I enjoyed the course and as well as gaining new knowledge I found out a bit more about myself. I am aiming to eventually undertake the Bachelor of Dementia Care honours program and in the meantime, if there is a part-time employment opportunity where I can help those with dementia or their families, I will consider that option."

Suzanne Teague, Bachelor of Dementia Care

The Understanding Dementia MOOC

Developed and launched in 2013, the Understanding Dementia MOOC has become a flagship of the Wicking Centre.


50 BEST ONLINE COURSES OF ALL TIME
CLASS CENTRAL



This free, nine-week course draws on the expertise of leaders in dementia research and education to address the foremost issues surrounding dementia. The course provides avenues for discussion as well as the ability for rich global networking opportunities for learners to engage with this major health issue.

Understanding Dementia is presented in three modules:

1. The Brain – describes basic nervous system anatomy and function, followed by a discussion of the diseases that cause dementia, current dementia research and future directions.
2. The Diseases – explores differences between normal ageing and dementia, risk factors, symptoms of dementia, issues surrounding diagnosis, as well as medical management.
3. The Person – addresses difficulties in recognising symptoms, living with dementia, progression and staging, palliation, behaviours, management, and alternative therapies.

The course has now been offered five times, and has attracted over 90,000 participants from 172 countries. The completion rate of the UD MOOC is 38%, placing it as one of the most globally successful MOOCs overall.* In 2016, the Understanding Dementia MOOC was listed by Class Central in the top 50 online courses of all time, including number one in the health and medical category. This listing is based on user ratings from more than 6,000 MOOCs and other online courses delivered by over 600 universities worldwide (see www.class-central.com/report/top-moocs/).

Most importantly, the Centre continues to improve the lives of people living with dementia through offering this course for free, and ensuring content is updated and revised as best practice and evidence develops. An alumnus of course participants continues to grow each year, and feedback is utilised to ensure the program remains relevant and accessible.

* The average MOOC completion rate is 6.5%. Jordan K (2014) Initial Trends in Enrolment and Completion of Massive Open Online Courses. International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning, 15 (1).



Hear from our Understanding Dementia MOOC participants:

“What an amazing job you guys have done! I watched all videos and wanted more! Very inspirational people and have made my mind up to work in this field! Thanks so much for having such an insight into this condition. I can’t wait to meet equally inspirational people on my career into the field of dementia”.

Alicia Louise Sheridan, Western Australia

“WOW I think [The Understanding Dementia MOOC] is fantastic. The most practical and helpful dementia course I have ever done. I love the chats and quizzes. The work put into the course must have been massive. Thanks again”.

Carolyn Everett, Victoria

“I am enjoying this course very much. There is much to refresh my current knowledge, but also many insights that I had not appreciated from purely reading about dementia”.

Sarah Mason, United Kingdom

“Having worked in this field, I wish this was available to all staff in the field... This course is gold standard no doubt about it”.

Debbie Hutchinson, New Zealand

Preventing Dementia MOOC

In July 2016, the Wicking Centre launched a second MOOC – ‘Preventing Dementia’.



Pictured from left: Dr David Ward, Dr Maree Farrow, Dr Shannon Klekociuk and Professor James Vickers

This course draws on the latest scientific evidence, as well as the expertise of leading researchers in dementia prevention, to outline and discuss the key risk factors for dementia that are potentially modifiable. With the latest research estimating that around one third of dementia cases may be preventable, this course offers practical steps to decrease the risk of dementia.

The five-week course is free, and open to anyone. It is particularly relevant to health professionals, policy makers, aged-care service providers and people with an interest in brain health and/or dementia risk reduction. This course provides evidence based advice to engage participants in activities and behaviours to potentially reduce the incidence of dementia, and build community-wide knowledge and capacity to mitigate against the risk of dementia.

The inaugural offering attracted over 11,000 participants with a completion rate of 49%.

Hear from our Preventing Dementia MOOC participants:

“Thank you very much for the opportunity to learn more about dementia and to have the opportunity to educate myself about, and how to prevent the risk of dementia. I learnt a lot in this course. Thank you to an amazing team.”

Ana Zolorzano, Australia

“Really enjoyed the course, it’s been very reinforcing for me as a co-ordinator of an ‘Older Persons Program’. We are definitely doing activities that assist them in ‘Preventing Dementia.’”

Betty Chapman New Zealand

“Thank you for offering an excellent course not just for students but humanity. You’re providing an incredibly beneficial service in an easily accessible way.”

Kehinde James, United Kingdom

The Hon. David Bartlett at the Preventing Dementia launch

“I have really enjoyed the course as it has motivated me to target a business/program that I have been toying with but was not confident to leave paid work to put together. The research and course content of the MOOC has reinforced my learning/passion and motivation. I am an Occupational Therapist and have been looking for an avenue to assist people in a preventative capacity.”

Shelly Horne, Australia



There are currently more than
46.8 million
 people worldwide living with
 dementia today.

(REF: Alzheimer’s Disease International (2015) The Global Impact of Dementia: An analysis of prevalence, incidence, cost and trends. World Alzheimer Report)

Helping people living with dementia

The Understanding Dementia and Preventing Dementia MOOCs have reached many people in Australia and across the world. These are unique and important tools to boost dementia literacy for people with dementia, their carers, support workers and health professionals.

The Wicking Centre hopes to substantially expand the reach of these vital and free courses to all corners of Australia and the globe, improving the lives of people living with dementia. Help us to provide the MOOCs to the many hundreds of thousands of people who most need this support by considering a donation to the Wicking Centre.

All donations of \$2 and above are fully tax-deductable in Australia. Donations are gratefully received and may be made in person, by cheque or credit card.

For more information, visit utasalumni.org.au/wickingcentre or call us on 1800 982 600.

Our people



Professor James Vickers,
Co-Director

Professor Andrew Robinson,
Co-Director

Professor James Vickers is Co-Director of the Wicking Centre and Professor of Pathology at the University of Tasmania. Professor Vickers' research interests include neurodegenerative disease (particularly Alzheimer's disease), traumatic brain injury, structural brain plasticity, ageing-related changes in cognition, and health services for dementia.

Andrew Robinson is the Professor of Aged Care Nursing in the School of Health Sciences, and Co-Director of the Wicking Centre. Professor Robinson has established a thriving multi-disciplinary aged care research program in Tasmania, and is now a national and international leader in aged care research and education.



Staff and students

The Wicking Centre's Executive is responsible for the overall governance and management of the Centre, and liaises closely with the Faculty of Health. In 2016, a Senior Leadership Group was established as part of the new Faculty Centre governance structure to coordinate strategic planning, and provide management and leadership to the Centre's staff and student body. Supporting the Wicking Centre's broad activities is a growing staff and student profile.



In 2016
the Wicking Centre awarded Australia's
first Bachelor of Dementia Care degrees.

Staff spotlight



Dr Kate-Ellen Elliott

Dr Kate-Ellen Elliott is a Research Fellow at the Centre. Dr Elliott is also Chair of the Australian Association of Gerontology Tasmanian Division and a registered Clinical Psychologist. Her current role is National Health and Medical Research Council/Australian Research Council Research Fellow where she leads Work4Dementia – a project that aims to develop an evidence-based intervention that could help build capacity and resilience for the Australian dementia care workforce.

In 2016, Dr Elliott was awarded a four-year Fellowship for over half a million dollars. In May 2016, Dr Elliott had the opportunity to present her latest findings, based on a survey, at the International Wellbeing at Work Conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The survey assessed the adjustment of Australian aged and dementia care employees to their job roles. The results showed most employees who delivered care into clients' homes coped adaptively with their job roles but showed some signs of poor physical and psychological health. Nineteen per cent of employees reported distress levels that would place them at risk for a mental health condition. The next stage of Dr Elliott's research looks at ways in which employees may be able to build their resilience to cope with job demands which can include feeling distressed and isolated when caring for people with dementia.



Dr Anthony Cook

Dr Anthony Cook is a Senior Lecturer at the Wicking Centre, and is Deputy Course Co-ordinator of the Bachelor of Dementia Care. Dr Cook trained as a molecular cell biologist, and within the Centre he leads a team of neuroscientists using pluripotent stem cells to investigate how the function of nerve cells are altered by genetic risk factors for dementia, or by neurodegenerative disease-causing mutations.

Amongst his current projects, he has a substantial focus on the BDNF gene because a commonly occurring variant in this gene confers a vulnerability of cognitive function decline in healthy older Tasmanians. Using advanced stem cell techniques, Dr Cook is able to study neurons that correspond to persons with the different forms of this gene to investigate how neuron biology is changed.

In April 2016, Dr Cook was selected to participate in a Wellcome Trust practical course in Genetic Engineering of Mammalian Stem Cells in Hinxton, UK, where he trained in sophisticated gene editing techniques that enable him to correct disease-causing mutations in cells grown in the laboratory. When combined with Dr Cook's expertise in stem cell biology, gene editing will expedite the translation of genetic findings into clinical practice by providing unique, relevant and specific platforms for novel biomarker identification, or for drug discovery experiments that seek to promote neuron function.

Student spotlight



Kimberley Stuart

Kimberley Stuart is a current PhD candidate at the Wicking Centre. Ms Stuart studied Psychology at undergraduate level, and has moved into laboratory-based research for her PhD.

Ms Stuart's PhD project has centred on investigating the potential for mid to later life cognitive stimulation to protect against cognitive dysfunction in ageing, and ageing associated with Alzheimer's disease pathology. The study has demonstrated that environmental stimulation in mid to later life, is associated with beneficial effects to the neural system, including an increase in synaptic connectivity and improvements to cognitive function.

In July 2016, Ms Stuart presented her work at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Toronto, Canada. This presentation was centred on the association between gene mutations involved in familial Alzheimer's disease, and increased levels of stress hormones, suggesting a link between Alzheimer's disease and stress. Ms Stuart also presented as a finalist in the Australian Association for Medical Research Awards, showing research that suggest mice possessing these gene mutations when exposed to a novel environment, had further elevations of stress hormone, and exacerbated neuropathology. Such findings demonstrate a link between stress levels and Alzheimer's disease progression.



It is likely that Dementia will overtake heart failure in the next few years to become the number one cause of death in Australia.

(REF: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2015) Causes of Death, Australia, 2013: Cat no. 3303.0)

Dementia Training Australia

In 2016, the Australian Commonwealth Government provided \$27.9 million in funding to establish Dementia Training Australia (DTA) to oversee a national approach to accredited education, skills development and professional development for the workforce providing care to people living with dementia. The DTA is a consortium of eminent experts in dementia training, and the Wicking Centre plays a lead role as one of five consortium leaders, along with the University of Wollongong, Queensland University of Technology, La Trobe University, University of Western Australia and Alzheimer's Australia.

The DTA will draw particularly upon the Wicking Centre's expertise as a world leader in online dementia education.

The Wicking Centre's contribution will demonstrate the capacity of the Centre's innovation in developing cutting edge, world class, online dementia education and training. The aim will be to enable the DTA to respond to the many challenges in current dementia training arrangements by providing accessible online learning for specific vocational areas.

Public Forum: Making a Connection with Dementia

To coincide with Dementia Awareness Month, in September 2016 the Wicking Centre hosted a public forum "Making a Connection with Dementia", coordinated by the Centre's Leadership Group and led by Dr Matthew Kirkcaldie.

The forum was attended by over 150 people including people living with dementia, their families and carers, health professionals and policy makers and members of the general public; and the Centre plans to make this an annual event. Three researchers from the Wicking Centre led the forum to discuss the Care, Cause and Prevention of dementia.

The event concluded with a panel discussion and questions from the audience. A highlight of the night was hearing from Diana Harris – a member of the local community living with dementia.



Panel organisers pictured from left: Dr Juanita Westbury, Dr Anna King, Dr Matthew Kirkcaldie and Professor James Vickers

Learning and Teaching Awards

In 2016, the Wicking Centre was successful in two awards for 'Programs that Enhance Learning'.

Led by Dr Alison Canty, the Dementia Care Program application was successful in the University of Tasmania's Vice Chancellor's Teaching and Learning Award for Programs that Enhance Learning, as well as the nationally competitive Australian Award for University Teaching, awarded by Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training.

The Dementia Care Program applicants included Dr Alison Canty, Professor James Vickers, Professor Andrew Robinson, Professor Fran McInerney, Professor Justin Walls, Dr Carolyn King, Dr Andrea Carr and Dr Lyn Goldberg. These prestigious awards recognise quality teaching practices that make an outstanding contribution to the quality of student learning.

The success of these two awards demonstrates the Centre's ability in enabling non-traditional students' articulation from the Understanding Dementia MOOC through to the Bachelor of Dementia Care.

Inaugural Rhonda Ewart Honours Scholarship in Dementia Care



A stalwart supporter of the Wicking Centre, Ms Rhonda Ewart, generously provided the inaugural "Rhonda Ewart Honours Scholarship in Dementia Care". Applications were called for, and the scholarship was awarded to Honours Student, Anna Brain, early in 2016.

Ms Brain is from Tasmania's North West Coast, and in 2016 is completing her honours studies with the Wicking Centre and is the first-ever recipient of the \$5,000 scholarship. Ms Brain's honours thesis will involve researching the role of neurofilaments in Amyloid Precursor Protein transport and processing.

Ms Ewart said her personal experience with her mother who had Alzheimer's Disease moved her to provide the scholarship, to support research towards finding a cure for the debilitating disease. The Wicking Centre is extremely grateful to Ms Ewart and looks forward to a continued relationship, and introducing the second scholarship recipient in 2017.

Pictured from left: Honours Student Anna Brain and Ms Rhonda Ewart

Grant Funding Awarded in 2016

Project Title	Dementia Training Australia
CIs	Fleming R, Burton R, Winbolt M, Beattie E, Robinson A , Stafford A
Funding amount	\$1.7million (of \$27.9million)
Funding Body	Department of Health, Australian Commonwealth Government
Period	2016 – 2019
Project Title	The Tasmanian Healthy Brain Project: a longitudinal intervention study to reduce the risk of ageing-related cognitive decline and dementia
CIs	Vickers J, Summers M , Valenzuela M, Summers J, King A, Robinson A , Srikanth V
Funding amount	\$878,790
Funding Body	National Health and Medical Research Council
Period	2016 – 2020
Project Title	Improving Dementia Education Access (the IDEA study) for clinical hospital staff in regional and district hospitals
CIs	Annear M
Funding amount	\$599,670
Funding Body	National Health and Medical Research Council
Period	2016 – 2020
Project Title	Work4Dementia: Development of an evidence-based intervention to build capacity and resilience for the Australian dementia care workforce
CIs	Elliott K
Funding amount	\$595,220
Funding Body	National Health and Medical Research Council
Period	2016 – 2020
Project Title	Axon Degeneration and Axon Protection in CNS disease and Injury
CIs	Canty A, King A, Vickers J
Funding amount	\$397,000
Funding Body	National Health and Medical Research Council
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	The tip of dysfunction: synaptic deficits drive ALS
CIs	Woodhouse A , Blizzard C, Walker A
Funding amount	\$249,861
Funding Body	Motor Neurone Disease Research Institute Australia
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	General Practice Training Tasmania's (GPTTs) Dementia Care Training and Education Program (DCTEP) project
CIs	Doherty K, McInerney F, Robinson A
Funding amount	\$216,000
Funding Body	General Practice Training Tasmania
Period	2016 – 2017

Project Title	Identifying the role of oligodendrocytes in disease onset and progression in ALS
CIs	Leung J, King A
Funding amount	\$97,923
Funding Body	Motor Neuron Disease Research Institute of Australia
Period	2017
Project Title	Sustained effective oral care to significantly reduce aspiration pneumonia experienced by adults with dementia in residential care
CIs	Goldberg L , Crocombe L, Robinson A , Jones I, Lea E, Westbury J , Beattie E, Toye C, Brennan D, Palmer A, Heiss CJ, McInerney F
Funding amount	\$99,752
Funding Body	Dementia Collaborative Research Centres
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Staying connected: determining targets to protect neuronal circuitry in ALS
CIs	King A, Kirkcaldie M
Funding amount	\$97,119
Funding Body	Motor Neuron Disease Research Institute of Australia
Period	2017
Project Title	Towards a patient-specific stem cell model of the blinding eye disease glaucoma
CIs	Cook A , Hewitt A, Pébay A
Funding amount	\$71,000
Funding Body	Clifford Craig Medical Research Trust
Period	2016
Project Title	Comparison of different proteins for direct gene editing in the retina
CIs	Liu R, Hewitt A, Bui B, King A , Li F
Funding amount	Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia
Funding Body	\$50,000
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Assessing ABCA1 Function in POAG using patient-specific Trabecular Meshwork Cells
CIs	Cook A , Hewitt A
Funding amount	\$50,000
Funding Body	Ophthalmology Research Institute of Australia
Period	2016
Project Title	Developing Dementia Friendly Initiatives in Tasmania
CIs	Courtney-Pratt H, Doherty K
Funding amount	\$48,299
Funding Body	Tasmanian Community Fund
Period	2016 – 2017

Grant Funding Awarded in 2016 continued

Project Title	Optimising Respiratory Care in Dementia (ORCID): an educational program for carers
CIs	Robinson A, Doherty K , Walters E, Elliott K
Funding amount	\$45,799
Funding Body	Dementia Collaborative Research Centres
Period	2016
Project Title	Assessing Alzheimer's disease risk online: What is the relationship between risk factors and objective and subjective memory performance?
CIs	Farrow M , Anstey K, Ellis KE, Klekociuk S, Ward D, Vickers J
Funding amount	\$41,435
Funding Body	Dementia Collaborative Research Centres
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Development of an online education module entitled Recognising, Diagnosing and Managing Dementia in General Practice
CIs	Doherty K, Robinson A
Funding amount	\$40,000
Funding Body	Dementia Training Study Centre
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Neurofilaments as a mechanism for the effect of mild iodine deficiency on brain development
CIs	Kirkcalie M, King A, Vickers J , Burgess J, Hynes K
Funding amount	\$35,000
Funding Body	Brain Foundation
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Identifying critical neuronal signatures of epigenetic modifier complexes of Alzheimer's disease initiation and progression
CIs	Woodhouse A , Taberlay P, Robinson M, Mercer T
Funding amount	\$33,000
Funding Body	Brain Foundation
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Identifying and targeting risk related behaviours raised by Tasmanian youth attending an injury prevention P.A.R.T.Y. (Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth) Program
CIs	Greenwood M, Course G, Doherty K
Funding amount	\$31,942
Funding Body	MAIB
Period	2016 – 2017

Project Title	Investigating the utility of retinal Base-Editing
CIs	Hewitt A, Liu G, Cook A
Funding amount	\$25,000
Funding Body	Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Investigating Batten disease-causing CLN3 mutations in patient-specific stem cells and neurons
CIs	Cook A , Ware T, King A , Hewitt A
Funding amount	\$24,898
Funding Body	Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Bioplatforms Australia (BPA) - collaborative research
CIs	Wilson R, Foo E, King A , Tovar C, Martin A
Funding amount	\$15,000
Funding Body	Bioplatforms Australia Ltd: Contract Research
Period	2016
Project Title	Microglia: Does their role in synaptic remodelling change with age?
CIs	Ziebell J
Funding amount	\$15,000
Funding Body	University of Tasmania
Period	2016
Project Title	Vice-Chancellor's award for programs that enhance learning
CIs	Goldberg L, Canty A, Vickers J, Robinson A , Carr A, Walls J, King C
Funding amount	\$5,000
Funding Body	University of Tasmania
Period	2016 – 2017
Project Title	Dementia Friendly Communities: Prioritising action through community
CIs	Courtney-Pratt H, Doherty K
Funding amount	\$4,360
Funding Body	Community Engagement Grants (UTAS)
Period	2016

Ongoing Current Grant Funding

Project Title	Expansion of the RedUSE project into everyday practice*
CIs	Westbury J , Peterson G, Bindoff I, Gee P
Funding amount	\$3,000,000
Funding Body	Dementia and Aged Care Service Fund
Period	2013 – 2016
Project Title	Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre (Stage 2)
CIs	Robinson A, Vickers J
Funding amount	\$3,000,000
Funding Body	JO & JR Wicking Trust
Period	2013 – 2017
Project Title	Microfluidic technology to help understand physical damage to brain cells
CIs	Breadmore M, Guijit R, King A , Dickson T
Funding amount	\$414,000
Funding Body	Australian Research Council
Period	2015 – 2017
Project Title	Improving care through embedding general practitioners within residential aged care facilities
CIs	Robinson A , Haines T, Palmer A, Vickers J
Funding amount	\$404,875
Funding Body	BUPA Foundation
Period	2013 – 2016
Project Title	Axon degeneration and axon protection in CNS disease and injury
CIs	King A, Vickers J, Canty A
Funding amount	\$377,000
Funding Body	National Health and Medical Research Council
Period	2015 – 2017
Project Title	Role of Oligodendrocytes in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
CIs	Leung J
Funding amount	\$240,000
Funding Body	Motor Neurone Disease Australia
Period	2014 – 2016
Project Title	Selectively vulnerable neurons in Alzheimer's disease: functional and morphological changes in healthy ageing and early Alzheimer's disease
CIs	Woodhouse A, Vickers J
Funding amount	\$220,000
Funding Body	Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation
Period	2015 – 2018

Project Title	Develop, deliver and evaluate a dementia education program for GP registrars
CIs	Robinson A , Lo A, Tierney L , Turnock A, Mason R, Stratton B , Tolman J, Crisp E, Eccleston C
Funding amount	\$180,000
Funding Body	Victorian and Tasmanian Dementia Training Centre
Period	2014 – 2016
Project Title	The Integrated Living Workshops and Consultancy
CIs	Robinson A, Doherty K
Funding amount	\$131,284
Funding Body	Integrated Living Australia
Period	2015 – 2016
Project Title	The role of FTLN proteins in neurite health, function and dysfunction
CIs	King A, Atkinson R
Funding amount	\$90,000
Funding Body	Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation
Period	2014 – 2016
Project Title	The landscape of gene expression changes in the aqueous humor drainage pathway of glaucoma patients
CIs	Cook A , Toh T-Y, Kunde D, Hewitt A
Funding amount	\$71,000
Funding Body	Clifford Craig Medical Research Trust
Period	2015 – 2016
Project Title	Charting epigenetic reprogramming in Alzheimer's disease mice
CIs	Woodhouse A, Phipps A
Funding amount	\$52,500
Funding Body	Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation
Period	2015 – 2017
Project Title	Enhancing Psychology Placements in Aged Care Project
CIs	Elliott K , Dean T, Scott J
Funding amount	\$42,587
Funding Body	Health Workforce Australia
Period	2015 – 2016
Project Title	Axon degeneration and axon protection in Alzheimer's disease
CIs	King A
Funding amount	\$30,000
Funding Body	Yulgibar Foundation
Period	2015 – 2017

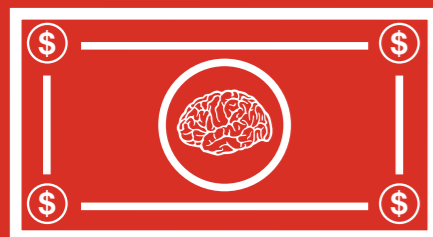
*School of Medicine – excluded from total funding summary

Ongoing Current Grant Funding continued

Project Title	Selectively vulnerable neurons in Alzheimer's disease: functional and morphological changes
CIs	Woodhouse A, Vickers J
Funding amount	\$20,000
Funding Body	Yulgibar Foundation
Period	2015 – 2017
Project Title	Assessing cognitive impairment in cardiovascular patients: Predictive assessment of dementia related microvascular brain disease
CIs	Summers M, Greaves K, Klekociuk S
Funding amount	\$19,668
Funding Body	Wishlist Sunshine Coast Health Foundation
Period	2015 – 2016
Project Title	Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation Half Funded Scholarship
CIs	Phipps A
Funding amount	\$7,500
Funding Body	Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation
Period	2015 – 2017

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If dementia were a country,
it would be the world's
18th largest economy.

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(REF: Alzheimer's Disease International (2015) The Global Impact of Dementia: An analysis of prevalence, incidence, cost and trends. World Alzheimer Report)

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