Mission

The National Centre for Neuroimmunology and Emerging Diseases (NCNED) is a research team located in Griffith Health Centre at Griffith University on the Gold Coast. Lead by Professors Sonya Marshall-Gradsnink and Donald Staines, the team has a focus on Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME).

Our mission is to translate research findings into preventative medicine, social and clinical care and public health outcomes. By collaborating with local, national and international research institutes, we aim to create sustained improvements in health and health care for not only sufferers of CFS/ME but also other immune disorders.

Recruitment of CFS/ME and Healthy Participants

We have had an amazing year with significant findings that have been reported and published with even more to be published in the coming months. To continue this work we need your help!

We aim to continue our current study as well as continue into next year with research investigating:

- Brain structure and function using Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Immunological and genetic studies in CFS/ME
- Gastrointestinal (GI) changes in CFS/ME

We require new participants for these studies including healthy controls as well as those with CFS/ME. We will also invite past participants to these new studies.

If you are willing to participate or would like further information, please contact us at ncned@griffith.edu.au or (07) 5678 9283.
Research Update

The team at NCNED has discovered some significant findings that we continue to investigate. Here is a brief update of our most recent achievements including publications and conference presentations since our last newsletter release.

Journal Publications


Conference Presentations

The team from The National Centre for Neuroimmunology presents and shares their research all over the world at various conferences and scientific meetings. Since our last newsletter, team members have presented studies and results at the following conferences:

- PhD student Teilah Huth presented work at the 45th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Society for Immunology held in Canberra.
- PhD student Thao Nguyen presented work at the 4th European Congress of Immunology held in Vienna, Austria.
- Samantha Johnston presented at the Population Health Conference in Hobart.
- Ms Johnston presented her work at the International Student Research Forum in Aberdeen, Scotland.
- Samantha Johnston attended and presented at the European Congress of Epidemiology in Maastricht, Netherlands.
- Professor Sonya Marshall-Gradisnik and Professor Donald Staines presented significant findings at the 10th Invest in ME International ME Conference in London, England.
- Teilah Huth presentation at the 15th Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity in Quebec, Canada.
**New Additions to the NCNED Team**

Starting this year we have two new post-doctoral fellows Dr. Anu Chacko and Samantha Johnston. Some readers may already be familiar with Samantha as she is finishing her PhD research.

Dr. Chacko has a background in immunology and will be applying her skills to research into Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis as well as supervising our excellent students.

Also starting recently are two new students studying towards their Masters of Medical Research, Emmanuel Adegbosin and Ansel Collatz. These two students will continue to investigate CFS/ME from both an immunological and public health perspective respectively.

**Thankyou ‘Change for ME’!**

A big thankyou goes out to the support group Change for ME as they donated a big $10,598.31 as a result of their fundraising efforts.

Fundraising such as this helps raise much appreciated funds that go towards research but also helps to increase awareness of CFS/ME in the general community.

**Team ME @ GU**

On May 11, 2015 the Griffith Health Centre at Griffith University, Gold Coast was lit up in blue to help celebrate M.E. awareness week.

The message “Team M.E @ G.U” was also projected with lasers on the side of the building.