“Health and medical research can lead to the delivery of substantial benefits to our population and is vitally important to building a healthy community, but is reliant on volunteers support.”

Professor Lyn Griffiths, Director, Griffith Health Institute

Current / Forthcoming Trials

1. **Memory performance after chemotherapy (a virtual reality shopping study)**

We are examining memory performance in women who have received chemotherapy for treatment of breast cancer. Participation will involve a single 1-1.5 hour session at Griffith University's Gold Coast or Mt Gravatt campus.

**2 types of volunteers:**

1. Women who have a history of breast cancer, are between 40-65 years of age, and were treated with chemotherapy that finished 6-60 months ago
2. Women aged between 40-65 years who have never been diagnosed with cancer.

Contact Dr Heather Green (07) 5552 9086, h.green@griffith.edu.au

2. **Clinical trial seeking 'hay fever' patients**

A study to examine how acupuncture may be an effective treatment for allergic rhinitis more commonly known as 'hay fever'.

The findings of this study may identify the immunological basis for the clinical improvement in hay fever symptoms that has been reported in a number of other studies following acupuncture treatment.

**Volunteers**

- Individuals aged between 18-45 years of age who have more than a 2 year history of moderate to severe persistent hay fever.

(Volunteers will be required to participate in a 13 week study protocol in which they will be randomly divided into 3 groups. One group will receive acupuncture twice weekly for 8 weeks, the second group will receive sham acupuncture twice weekly for 8 weeks and the third group will receive no acupuncture treatment. During the study each volunteer will be clinically assessed and have their nasal airflow measured on 3 occasions. Up to 8 small samples of saliva (1ml) and 2 small blood
samples (12.5ml) will also be collected during the study period. The purpose of collecting these samples is to conduct a range of tests to assess components of the immune response and neural response following acupuncture and to correlated this information with symptoms and blood and saliva tests.

During the study we ask the participants to complete a daily symptom and medication diary for their hay fever. On 3 occasions during the study we will also ask each participant to complete a short rhinitis quality of life questionnaire. The purposes of the daily diary and quality of life questionnaire is to determine if acupuncture treatment leads to clinical improvement compared with those who receive sham acupuncture or no acupuncture treatment.

Email the Allergy Clinic at confirmations@aapt.net.au indicating that you are enquiring about the acupuncture study.

3. Child Anxiety / Take Action Group

1. Treatment program for children with anxiety disorders. Cognitive and behavioural treat to help to reduce anxiety to normal levels

2. 1 day workshops for parents who suffer from anxiety and have children between the ages of 4 – 12 yrs old. Help to reduce anxiety and develop a mechanism to offset intergenerational transmission of anxiety from parent to child.

Volunteers:

1. Children ages 4 – 12 yrs
2. Parents with children aged 4 – 12yrs

Contact Anxiety Research Program at Griffith Health Institute (07) 373 53349

4. Migraine In Children

This study aims to improve understanding of the genetic component to migraine and associated conditions in children. The ultimate objective of this study is to provide important insights into the genes involved to provide better diagnostic, management and treatment options.
ABC LIFE MATTERS Interview
Griffith Health Institute

Volunteers:

- Children between the ages of 4-12 both with and without migraine are asked to participate in the study.
- Participation involves completion of questionnaires and provision of a saliva sample.
- Participation can be done via the mail as it simply involves completion of questionnaires and provision of saliva in a collection vial.

Contact Dr Natalie Colson (07) 555 29075 N.Colson@griffith.edu.au

5. The Peer Group’s involvement in Childhood Bullying

We are conducting research on bullying amongst primary school children in Grades 5 to 7. This research focuses on understanding the peer group’s role in bullying - in particular, what are the mechanisms through which the peer group encourages bullying and how can the peer group be utilised to intervene against bullying?

Volunteers

This research is conducted within a school environment, with staff from Griffith’s School of Psychology working closely with schools in the South-East Queensland region. Ultimately, the aim of such research is to develop effective anti-bullying interventions.

6. RSVP Trial

RSVP Trial - looks at Intravenous Catheter (IV) tubing use and duration of time in use in acute hospitals. Trial is across SE QLD Hospitals.

Volunteers:

- Adults and Children.
- Need 5,000 volunteers who are in hospital with a drip.
- Participants will be recruited by nurses within the hospital setting.

Contact Prof Claire Rickard, Griffith Health Institute, (07) 373 56460, c.rickard@griffith.edu.au
ABC LIFE MATTERS Interview
Griffith Health Institute

7. PARO (Emotional Robots)

The effect of PARO on social engagement, communication and quality of life (QOL) in people living with dementia in residential care.

Volunteers:

- People living with mid to late stage dementia in residential aged care.
- This is a small pilot study and we are currently working with Churches of Christ to recruit population.

Contact Prof Wendy Moyle, (07) 373 55526, w.moyle@griffith.edu.au

8. People living with Dementia

The effect of foot massage on agitation in people living with dementia in residential care settings:

Volunteers:

- People living with dementia in residential aged care.
- Please note - Population already recruited for this trial, however, further studies in this area will be conducted in future.

Contact Prof Wendy Moyle, (07) 373 55526, w.moyle@griffith.edu.au

9. Pregnant Women

Improving outcomes for women in their next birth following a previous caesarean section.

Volunteers:

- Pregnant women. Need 144 women.

Contact Jocelyn Toohill (07) 338 21107, j.toohill@griffith.edu.au