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Our Mission

The National Centre for Neuroimmunology and Emerging Diseases (NCNED) is a research team located in the Griffith Health Centre at Griffith University on the Gold Coast. Led by Professors Sonya Marshall-Gradisnik 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 those affected by CFS/ME but also other immune disorders.

Friends of Parliament



Co-Directors of NCNED, Professor Sonya Marshall-Gradisnik and Professor Donald Staines, spoke at the inaugural Friends of Parliament ME/CFS Meeting held at Parliament House in Canberra on Wednesday 22 August.

There was an impressive turnout to the meeting, with a range of parliamentarians in attendance from across the political spectrum, as well as policy advisors and advocates. Senator Jordon Steele-John showed great support for the research undertaken at NCNED, including reducing the stigma associated with CFS/ME, developing a diagnostic test and identifying drugs to manage the disease.

Media Coverage

Congratulations to Mr Adrian Flack for winning first placed amateur at the Gold Coast 600—2nd for 2018. A big thank you to Mr Flack for his ongoing generosity to support CFS/ME and NCNED.



Publications Accepted

Congratulations to the NCNED research team on the publication of their paper in *Molecular Medicine*.

Cabanas H, Muraki K, Eaton N, Balinas C, Staines D and Marshall-Gradisnik S: *Loss of Transient Receptor Potential Melastatin 3 ion channel function in natural killer cells from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis patients*.

Thank you to the Stafford Fox Medical Research Foundation, Mr Douglas Stutt, the Mason Foundation, the Alison Hunter Memorial Foundation, the Blake Beckett Foundation, McCusker Charitable Foundation, Buxton Foundation, Change for ME Charity, Qld ME/CFS/FM Support Association Qld Inc., ACT ME/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Society, the Henty Community, Henty Lions Club and Mr and Mrs Stewart.

Awards



Congratulations to NCNED researcher Rachel Passmore who was awarded a Trainee Travel Award at the prestigious 2018 FASEB Conference on Nutritional Immunology and the Microbiota: Rules of Engagement in Health and Disease in Leesburg, Virginia, USA.

Abstract: Passmore R, Cabanas H, Staines D & Marshall-Gradisnik S: *A preliminary assessment of food intolerance and dietary behaviour in an Australian Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis cohort*.

Congratulations to NCNED researcher Dr Helene Cabanas on being selected as one of the Top 5 Poster Awards at the 2018 FASEB Conference on Calcium and Cell Function: From Mechanisms to Disease in Tahoe City, California, USA.



Abstract: Cabanas H, Muraki K, Eaton N, Balinas C, Staines D & Marshall-Gradisnik S: *Loss of Transient Receptor Potential Melastatin 3 ion channel function in natural killer cells from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis patients*.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6092868/>

CFS/ME International Conference

CFS/ME
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
RID RESEARCH,
INNOVATION
& DISCOVERY
26-27 Nov 2018
Crowne Plaza Surfers Paradise, Qld, Australia

National Centre for Neuroimmunology & Emerging Diseases
www.griffith.edu.au/health/events/ncned-cfsme-2018
Breakout resting room + live video link to plenaries
Welcome Cocktail Reception - 26 November 2018

Griffith UNIVERSITY MENZIES
Earlybird Registration Deadline
15 OCTOBER 2018
Abstracts Submission Open
15 MAR - 28 SEP 2018



In order to make it easier for CFS sufferers to attend the Conference, we are now reducing the price to \$50 per day - a total of \$100 for the two full days of the Conference. Early Bird prices have been extended to 10 November and we will have free parking for attendees, as well as a resting room with 15 beds and 5 lounge chairs and a qualified nursing assistant in attendance.