

*Issue 4, September 2020*

**ANZBMS**

# **EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR Newsletter**



*Celebrating Grant Success*

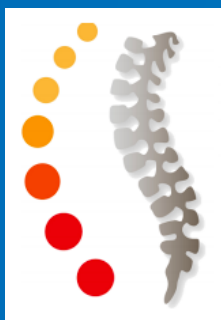
*Grant and Fellowship Tips*

*Perspectives on COVID-19*

*Coffee Catch-Ups*



Cover Image: Whole-body DXA scans highlighting lean mass (red), fat mass (yellow) and bone (blue). Images taken by Jakub Mesinovic, Ph.D. student, Department of Medicine, Monash University, Victoria.



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*ECIs please send us your scientific images - the best will feature on the front page of our next issue.*

 [ecinewsletter@anzbms.org.au](mailto:ecinewsletter@anzbms.org.au)

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## Editorial Board



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## ECIC Co-Chairs Report

Welcome to Issue 4 of the ECIC newsletter. The ECIC has been very busy over the last few months developing new initiatives to allow ECIs to continue to interact with each other. We have now successfully hosted three virtual coffee-catch ups to allow ECIs, ANZBMS members and others to have a chance to interact and discuss relevant issues over a 'virtual' coffee (see pages 13 and 14 for more details on the catch-ups). We had such a great turnout at these catch-ups with many great tips, suggestions and experiences shared. Thank you to all of our invited speakers and other ANZBMS senior members who have provided their thoughts and insights during these sessions. Stay tuned for details on the next Coffee-catch up.

The Career Development sub-committee has been busy working with the ECTS Academy to establish a joint Webinar Series - Bone Muscle & Beyond. The first session featured Scott Youtlen (Garvan Institute of Medical Research) and was moderated by Katharina Jähn-Rickert. This session focused on *Insights into the osteocyte transcriptome: from biology to bone disorders*. Scott delivered an insightful presentation that was well received from attendees all around the globe.

We are very excited that the ANZBMS Virtual Scientific meeting will be held in October (12-14th). This meeting will feature some fantastic international and national invited speakers. The ECIC will be hosting 3 events during the meeting - a Career Development session which will focus on fellowship schemes (Monday 12th October), the Clinical Cases in Metabolic Bone Disease Seminar (Monday 12th October), and a virtual breakfast networking event (Wednesday 14th October). Please see pages 5, 10 and 15 for more details on these events. The early bird registration deadline is 11th September. Make sure to check out the ANZBMS conference website <https://www.anzbmsconference.org/>.

We have received a high number of applications to join the ECIC, thank you to those who have applied. We will be announcing the successful applicants at the Virtual ASM.

Finally we decided to look at the positives related to the impacts of COVID-19 and lock downs experienced - pages 11 and 12 feature ECIs making the most of the lock downs. As you will see we all found very different ways to fill the time and keep ourselves occupied.

Remember to follow us on Twitter @ANZBMS\_ECIC. Please let us know of any grants/awards/achievements etc. as we would love to share them with the ANZBMS community.

We very much look forward to 'seeing' you all virtually at the ASM in October.

Dr. Ayse Zengin and Dr. Melissa Cantley

*ECIC Co-Chairs*





# Celebrating Grant Success

**Congratulations to our senior ANZBMS members on the success of their NHMRC Investigator Grants!!**



***"Making the first osteoporotic fracture the last - Implementation and analysis of an evidence-based, integrated model of care for secondary fracture prevention"***

Australia's few hospital-based fracture liaison service (FLS) are insufficient to address the need for secondary fracture prevention. While improvements could be made to their operational efficiency, they do not close the secondary fracture prevention gap under the present model of predominantly specialist care at most stages of care. To close this gap, full engagement with, and integration of primary health care into the fracture prevention model is required. The aim of this project is therefore *to make the first osteoporotic fracture the last* by creating irrefutable evidence that secondary fracture prevention programs, if fully integrated across primary, secondary and tertiary health care, will prevent fragility fractures, and thus unnecessary hospital admissions, fracture-related morbidity and mortality, and significant cost to the Australian health care system.

**Prof. Markus Seibel, University of Sydney, NSW**

## What advice would you give ECIs to continue to grow and develop as a leader in their field?

- A. Do what really, really fascinates you. Follow your gut feeling, your instincts. If you don't dream about your project at night look for something else.
- B. Once you get results, look for things that are unexpected and don't match your thinking. That's where the exciting things are hiding.
- C. Don't rush. Take your time. The shortest way between two points is not always (actually, almost never) the most interesting route. Take detours. Don't follow the crowd.
- D. Read the older literature, there are treasures to be discovered.
- E. Don't believe your mentor if you have one. Challenge them. Most things get much clearer when talked about over a bottle of wine.

## Do you think mentorship in academia is essential?

I don't think mentorship is essential (in the sense of without it nothing goes) - but it's very useful in most circumstances. When I think back over the past 35 years, I actually never had a mentor. I collaborated with more senior colleagues and through this learned about science and research. People that come to mind immediately are John Bilezikian from CU in New York, and Simon Robins from Aberdeen. But these guys, who became close friends over time, weren't mentors in a strict sense. However, I've often thought that having had a mentor would have sped things up. But then again, things didn't go too bad.



***"Increasing osteoporosis treatment uptake"***

This grant will be used to increase osteoporosis treatment uptake and reassure a large proportion of the population that they are not at risk of atypical femoral fracture (AFF) based on a favourable femoral alignment (Femoral Alignment Score from hip DXA). In the remaining minority of the population starting osteoporosis drugs, the study will identify patients with genetic or bone microarchitectural risk factors for AFF, based on an inexpensive genetic test and HRpQCT scans. We will also aim to enhance the ascertainment of AFF by using artificial intelligence and machine learning approaches, so software is incorporated into routine radiological practice.

**Prof. Peter Ebeling, Monash University, VIC**

## What are the most important traits to look for when collaborating with someone?

Successful collaborations are the key to research success particularly now when the scale of research is often on a large scale. Collaboration is a two way street so it is important to use your EQ and be aware of the needs of your co investigators. Overall, I think generosity is the most important quality for success in research and in life!



# Celebrating Grant Success

## In your research career, what has been the most important risk you have taken and why?

I think the most important risk is always traveling outside your comfort zone. As a clinician-scientist I made the move from a hospital role as Deputy Director of Diabetes and Endocrinology at Royal Melbourne Hospital in Melbourne to Head an Academic Department at the University of Melbourne 15 years ago. That was exciting and I established a new Department, Clinical School and Research Institute (AIMMS). Then 6 years ago I was recruited to Monash University where I now lead a large Department with >70 PhD students and 230 staff. Certainly that change made this Investigator Grant success possible!



### ***"Prediction of fracture by clinico-genetic profiling"***

With this grant, I will investigate the contribution of genetic variants and non-genetic factors to age-related bone loss. I will use this knowledge to identify individuals at high risk of excessive bone loss for early prevention. My team and I will analyse data of ~4000 men and women whose bone parameters have been serially measured over the past 30 years as part of the Dubbo Osteoporosis Epidemiology Study, to identify genetic variants that are associated with bone loss. We will then develop a predictive model that includes genetic profiling and clinical risk factors, for personalised assessment of bone loss and fracture risk, and we will develop web-based software for the prediction of fracture, re-fracture, survival, and treatment benefit.

**Prof. Tuan Nguyen, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, NSW**

## How do you keep your team motivated despite conflicts and obstacles?

I use an approach that I called "TTC approach" which stands for trust, transparency, and communication. I show trust by demonstrating my friendliness and readiness to help, and by working hard to achieve objectives. I consider that maintaining transparency of each member's ongoing projects is an important factor to keep members bonded together. I don't not encourage competition within a team, but I do encourage collaboration such that all of us can have a leverage and share the 'sunshine'. In this pandemic time, communication is really a key means to keep us together. We regularly meet over zoom where I update my team members of what has been going on, and what I expect from them. We are lucky that we have had no quarrel over the years.

## How do you generate great research ideas?

To me, ideas can be generated from 5 key sources: (1) real world observation; (2) reading the literature; (3) attending high-quality conferences; (4) paying attention to emerging technologies and ideas from other fields; and (5) a bit of imagination. With regard to the last source, I like Einstein's saying, "logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere".

## What is the single biggest issue of science these days?

I think the lack of reproducibility is the biggest problem that we are all facing these days. So many findings are not reproducible, and that is the most important threat to the foundation of science. Apart from that, there are other major 'diseases' of modern science that have been summarized by John Antonakis (2017): *significosis* (ie chasing statistical significance), *neophilia* (obsession with novelty), *theorrhea* (obsession with new theory), *arigorium* (obsession with algorithm), and *disjunctivitis* (pursuing quantity over quality).



### ***"Optimising engagement in cardiac secondary prevention: a health literacy approach"***

This grant will fund research to investigate how targeted health education can reduce follow-up heart attacks in people of poor or regional backgrounds.

**Dr. Alison Beauchamp, Monash University, VIC**



# 30<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND BONE AND MINERAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING **VIRTUAL**

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT SESSION

IMPROVING YOUR CHANCES OF FELLOWSHIP SUCCESS

**MONDAY OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2020: 3:00 – 4:30 PM**

This session aims to provide strategic tips and advice that will ultimately improve chances of future ECI fellowship success. The session opens with a presentation by Ass. Prof. David Scott on his success as an NHMRC Investigator Grant recipient, and his experience on the grant review panel.

Thereafter, a panel of successful NHMRC, ARC and NZ fellowship holders (and grant reviewers) will provide strategic advice for prospective fellowship applicants and highlight common mistakes to avoid. The session will conclude with an interactive Q&A where attendees are encouraged to seek further advice from the panel members.

### INVITED SPEAKER



**Ass. Prof. David Scott**

**Deakin University, VIC  
(formerly Monash University)  
NHMRC EL2**

Ass. Prof. David Scott is a musculoskeletal epidemiologist with expertise in sarcopenia, obesity, falls, and fractures. He is an Associate Professor at Deakin University and was formerly a Senior Research Fellow at Monash University. He is currently supported by an NHMRC Emerging Leadership Fellowship (Level 2) and was previously supported by a Career Development Fellowship. He was an Assessor for the Emerging Leadership levels of the NHMRC Investigator Grants in 2020. Ass. Prof. David Scott will give us his view on key components of a successful Emerging Leader Fellowship application.

### PANEL MEMBERS



**Dr. John Kemp**

**University of Queensland  
NHMRC EL1**



**Ass. Prof. Lana Williams**

**Deakin University, VIC  
NHMRC EL2**



**Prof. Allison Pettit**

**University of Queensland  
ARC Future Fellowship**



**Dr. Brya Matthews**

**University of Auckland, NZ  
Sir Charles Hercus Fellowship**

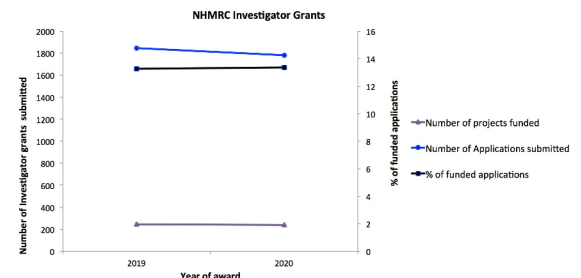
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE, PLEASE EMAIL: [ECIC@ANZBMS.ORG.AU](mailto:ECIC@ANZBMS.ORG.AU)

[www.anzbmsconference.org](http://www.anzbmsconference.org)

# Understanding the NHMRC Investigator Grant Results

With a success rate of only 10.0% and 12.4% for the Emerging Leadership (EL) category of the Investigator Grants, funding through the NHMRC has become harder to achieve. There has been no real change in the number of applications between 2019 and 2020, and the current climate of research with the effects of the global pandemic may lead to a decrease in applications by early-mid career researchers (EMCRs), putting the long term future of research at risk.

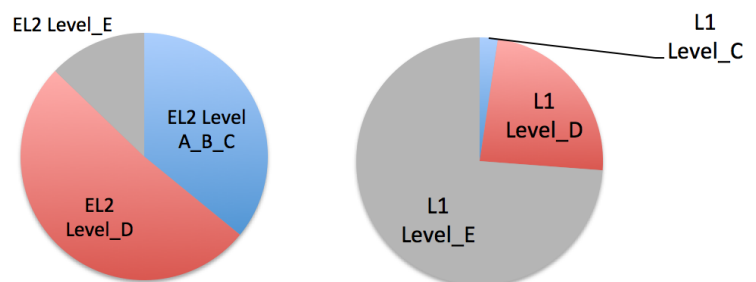
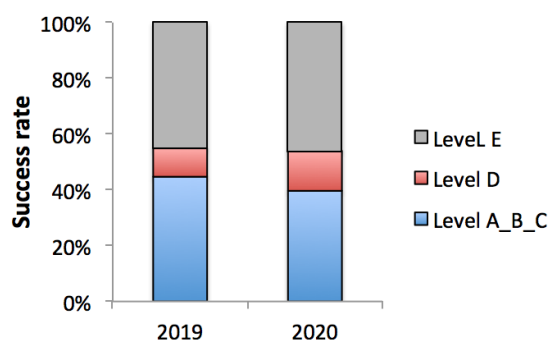
Level	Applications in 2020 (2019)	Grants awarded in 2020 (2019)	Funded rate in 2020 (2019)	Total value in 2020 (2019)
Leadership Level 3 (L3)	92 (92)	45 (42)	48.9% (45.7%)	\$108,956,071 (\$93,241,988)
Leadership Level 2 (L2)	168 (195)	28 (40)	16.7% (20.5%)	\$59,636,486 (\$83,637,031)
Leadership Level 1 (L1)	459 (478)	42 (35)	9.2% (7.3%)	\$92,912,114 (\$77,514,144)
Emerging Leadership Level 2 (EL2)	391 (475)	39 (43)	10.0% (9.1%)	\$55,481,675 (\$59,770,105)
Emerging Leadership Level 1 (EL1)	670 (617)	83 (86)	12.4% (13.9%)	\$50,488,799 (\$51,710,190)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,780 (1,857)</b>	<b>237 (246)</b>	<b>13.3% (13.2%)</b>	<b>\$367,475,145 (\$365,873,457)</b>



For 2020, the EL category includes researchers who are in fact Associate Professors or Professors at Levels A, B and C (as shown graphically in the pie graphs). The L1 category is described by the NHMRC: "L1 Investigator Grant recipients will be national authorities in their research area". This statement does not address further qualifications for this grant scheme which means that those with much greater experience and previous funding are still applicable, making it much harder for EMCRs who are >10 years post-PhD to be competitive.

Level	No PhD Grants (funded rate)	0-2 years Grants (funded rate)	>2-7 years Grants (funded rate)	>7-10 years Grants (funded rate)	>10 years Grants (funded rate)	Total Grants (funded rate)
Leadership 3	1(50.0%)	-	0	-	44(49.4%)	45(48.9%)
Leadership 2	0	0	-	0	28(17.1%)	28(16.7%)
Leadership 1	0	-	0(0.0%)	3(27.3%)	39(8.8%)	42(9.2%)
Emerging Leadership 2	1(50.0%)	0	19(10.9%)	13(8.1%)	6(12.0%)	39(10.0%)
Emerging Leadership 1	3(10.0%)	31(18.3%)	35(10.4%)	14(12.0%)	0	83(12.4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>5(12.8%)</b>	<b>31(17.8%)</b>	<b>54(10.5%)</b>	<b>30(10.3%)</b>	<b>117(15.3%)</b>	<b>237(13.3%)</b>

Not adjusted for career disruption



EMCRs appear to be highly disadvantaged, and it is important that the NHMRC notices these weaknesses, and takes steps to improve the Investigator funding scheme in order to promote equal opportunity and success for EMCRs in 2021.

*NHMRC Investigator Grant outcomes tabulated and graphed by Dr. Gaetan Burgio and reproduced with his permission.*





# EMCR Grant Editorial

***Results from the NHMRC Investigator grant scheme are once again dire for ECI's. Low funding opportunities put our careers at risk. With this in mind, we reached out to two researchers who have managed to stay successful, Professor Allison Pettit and Professor Belinda Beck both run independent research projects and have managed to out play the game. We asked them what tips and suggestions they might have for ECIs in this current climate.***



## Professor Allison Pettit

*Director of Biomedical Research and  
an Australian Research Council (ARC)  
Future Fellow at Mater Research.*

### ***What are your insights to running a successful lab in this tough time for ECI and mid career funding?***

As you progress along your career path, it is important to balance achieving independence versus functioning in a supportive environment in which you can leverage off the success of a bigger team/highly collaborative program. Seek depth in your funding base, as a single major grant is rarely enough to sustain a productive lab that is going to continue to be competitive on the international stage. Diversify your research with at least two distinct research streams, but use overlapping technical foundations or fundamental biology concepts to reduce the effort needed to progress both streams. If you are submitting grants simultaneously to different funding schemes, even if asking the same overarching question, vary the experimental approach used to address the question so that you can hold both, if by chance both are successful.

### ***What other suggestions might you have for an ECI to be more successful at attaining grants?***

Getting broad readership input to your grants is important. Put your ego aside and find mentors or readers who will constructively but brutally pull your grant to pieces. You don't have to action all of the comments, but you should always consider what prompted them to make the comment or suggested change. Look around your network and identify people who are consistently successful in getting their grant funded, these will often be the best readers. Blend the lottery approach with quality of application strategy i.e. apply for as many schemes as you can but make sure the submitted grant is as strong as possible so there is nothing to stop it getting funded if all the right elements align.

### ***Are collaborations important for ECI's now?***

Collaborations are always important but as an ECI make sure you're not always the one contributing to work by others only for a middle author position. Including strong co-CI's on applications is a great benefit to the overall perception of an application that has a junior CIA, but this is getting more challenging to achieve with grant capping. So ECIs need to find creative ways to boost the recognition of collaborative AIs to provide kudos to an application. More generally, make sure you engage with collaborators that are boosting the impact of your research, the collaboration has to provide clear complementary value and/or rapidly accelerate the speed at which you complete a publishable unit. Have early and generous conversations with collaborators about funding applications and publication intentions to establish a clear path for ongoing involvement and appropriate recognition, and to flag that they might want to save a CI spot for the specific activity. Be careful never to undervalue a collaborators contributions, as it is a good way to burn bridges quickly. Regular communication is key.

### ***Are there any other research funding opportunities beyond NHMRC that you are aware of that would be beneficial to ECI's?***

Absolutely, my first grants were from smaller granting bodies (Arthritis Foundation, Ramaciotti Foundation, internal UQ funding schemes but I also applied to funders like BUPA, Lions Foundation, Cancer Councils etc). Don't forget the importance of getting salary funding as well, even if your position is already grant funded, even if it is the smaller 1 year fellowships of relatively low value. ASBMR has grants that some of our mid-career membership has had success in so good idea to scope relevant societies and see if membership makes you eligible for some bespoke funding opportunities. Also don't just stick to Australian based funders. I scan through my institution's funding opportunity mailer every month it comes out and there are broad opportunities if you think a bit creatively. It is a huge plus in a 'track record' to have these smaller grants under your belt when applying for larger schemes, and make sure they get mentioned in the application even if track record is not an independent assessment component (Ideas).



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## Professor Belinda Beck

*School of Allied Health Sciences -  
Exercise and Sport, Griffith University*

### ***What are your insights in achieving a successful research project outside of government funding?***

If you have a full academic load of teaching, research and admin duties, it's simply not possible to dedicate the requisite time to grant writing to constant hit home runs in funding, or even to spend a lot of time at the coal face of your projects. Instead, my strategy has been to give my best project ideas to PhD students and then to work very closely with them to bring those projects to fruition. Not only do you replace months of grant writing with actual productive research, but you train new researchers how to be productive in these very lean times. Sure, the size of these projects might not be as big as you (or the reviewers) want, but we have been able to complete some really ground breaking projects on the smell of an oily rag (aka. standard in-house PhD funding), so I really discourage the thinking that you cannot do anything without a massive grant. Start by doing the best quality project you can afford. You never know where it will lead.

Look for small internal grants to get you out of the starting blocks. Internal grants are not as competitive as external schemes, they add to your CV, help you buy equipment, collect pilot data, conduct reliability testing of your primary outcome measures, and basically set you up to land the larger funding for the big project you have in mind.

### ***What other suggestions might you have for an ECI to gain funding?***

For the above to be a successful strategy, you have to have a research program goal (or 2), be very focused on achieving it/them, and be patient. Unless you walk into a job with a fully functioning lab in situ, you have to do a fair bit of ground work to establish one of your own. My PhD students can complete largely unfunded RCTs because I spent my early academic years applying for funding for the big ticket items in my lab (DXAs, pQCT etc) that are freely available to them. With each successive PhD project, we build up our collection of other equipment so that the scope of what we are able to do increases over time.

Small grants that PhD students can apply for (and you can help them write) look great on their CV and can really help improve feasibility of their projects (like recruiting). These small grants and awards are often offered by disciplinary bodies and associations, sometimes in association with the annual conference. With each PhD student you are improving your own track record such that when you do get the chance to write a big grant you have all the necessary ingredients at hand: pilot data, publications, PhD completions, track record of feasibility, etc.

### ***What else do you attribute to your success?***

Honestly, my best piece of advice is to not let ceremony stand in your way. I have never been afraid to ask for intellectual help and reaching out to some of the biggest names in my field has landed me in some of the most incredible labs (Clint Rubin's lab at SUNY, and Robert Marcus' lab at Stanford), not to mention some lifelong friendships. Working in very established labs expands your horizons in innumerable ways beyond your actual project. Networking broadly at conferences is an ongoing strategy to expand your collaborative opportunities (and, let's face it, where else are you going to meet so many people actually interested in talking about your research with you?). I also recommend that once you land your first solid job, identify a partner in crime who is as passionate as you about the work you are doing, whose opinion you respect and who has a work ethic at least as solid as your own. It helps if you really like them. (Life is too short to hang around with smart unpleasant people.) They don't have to be a mentor, they just have to be a sounding board for all your crazy ideas, help with student supervision, and provide honest critique of your writing, and you for them.

### ***What do you think the future of research for Australia looks like?***

I would love to say we have bright days ahead on the funding scene, but history would suggest that is an overly optimistic view. We have a country full of intellectual talent. However, when there is not much money in the pot, and so much competition, being smart is not enough. There is no magic formula to stand out from the crowd, but there is a lot to be said for passionately articulating your overarching program goal, and crafting a clever and compelling story of how you plan to achieve it. My final comment is probably self evident. Academia and science is not a 9-5 kind of a job. It's really a very nerdy hobby that you're lucky enough to get to do everyday.



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[@BelindaRBeck](https://twitter.com/BelindaRBeck)





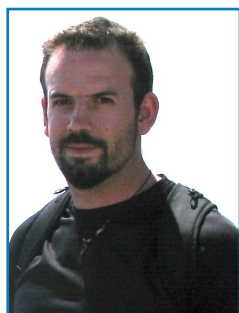
# RACP-ANZBMS & ASBMR Clinical Webinars



## ***Transitioning from denosumab - an update***

**Presenter:** Dr. Sabashini Ramchand

**When:** October 6, 2020 at 6pm AEST  
(8pm NZST/5.30pm ACST/4pm AWST)



## ***Genetics of osteoporosis***

**Presenter:** Dr. John Kemp

**When:** November 9, 2020 at 6pm AEST  
(8pm NZST/5.30pm ACST/4pm AWST)

***This Specialty Society Webinar Series is being undertaken by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in partnership with its affiliated specialty societies.***

Registration links will be sent out to all ANZBMS members closer to each session



*New from the ASBMR Early Stage Investigator (ESI) Subcommittee, this clinical workshop series aims to engage clinical fellows/trainees in stimulating discussion around musculoskeletal topics.*

*Each workshop will feature two cases, each presented over 30 minutes. Attendees will be encouraged to ask written questions (via a chat function) to allow a more interactive style.*

*The cases presented will range from common metabolic conditions that are complex to manage (e.g. CKD and bone), rare cases, diagnostically challenging cases, and specialised groups (e.g. early onset osteoporosis).*

*Previous topics include diabetes & bone health, calcium disorders, and CKD & bone health*

***Sessions are recorded and available to all at the following link:***

<https://www.asbmr.org/early-stage-investigator-clinical-cases-workshops>

# 30<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND BONE AND MINERAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING **VIRTUAL**

## **CLINICAL CASES SESSION** CLINICAL CASES IN METABOLIC BONE DISEASE

**MONDAY OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2020: 6:00 – 7:45 PM**

**THIS IS A FREE SESSION FOR CONFERENCE DELEGATES**

For those who wish to attend as a standalone session, you will be required to purchase a conference day registration

### **BONE HEALTH IN OBESITY AND WEIGHT LOSS**



**PROF. JACKIE CENTER**  
Garvan Institute of Medical  
Research, NSW, Australia  
*Speaker*



**PROF. DEBRA WATERS**  
University of Otago,  
Dunedin, New Zealand  
*Expert Moderator*

### **PRESCRIBING EXERCISE FOR OSTEOPOROSIS**



**PROF. BELINDA BECK**  
Griffith University, QLD,  
Australia  
*Speaker*



**PROF. ROBIN DALEY**  
Deakin University, VIC,  
Australia  
*Expert Moderator*

### **BONE HEALTH IN YOUNG WOMEN WITH PRIMARY OR SECONDARY HYPOGONADISM**



**PROF. BRONWYN STUCKEY**  
Keogh Institute for Medical  
Research, WA, Australia  
*Speaker*



**PROF. FRANCES MILAT**  
Monash University,  
VIC, Australia  
*Expert Moderator*

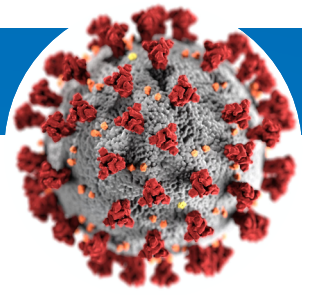
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**ANZBMS**  
Early Career  
Investigator Committee



# Perspectives on COVID-19



**Melissa Cantley**, South Australia  
University of Adelaide & SAHMRI



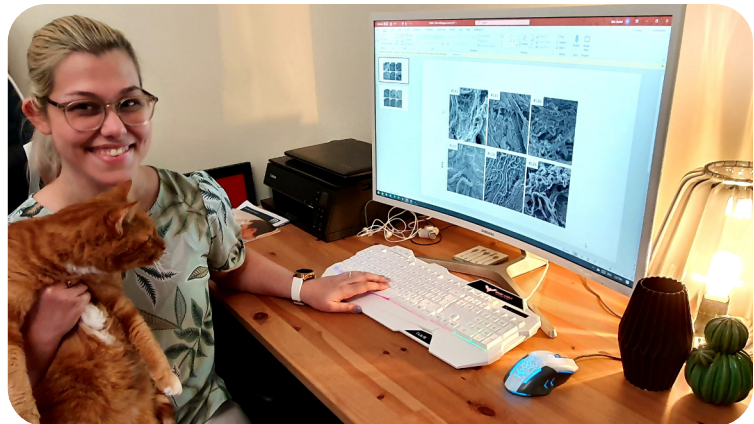
**Amy Ribet**, Western Australia,  
University of Western Australia



**John Kemp**, Queensland, University of  
Queensland Diamantina Institute



**Ayse Zengin**, Victoria,  
Monash University



**Alex Barker**, South Australia, University of South Australia



**Victoria Leitch**, Victoria, RMIT



**Eleanor Thong**, Victoria,  
Monash University



**Amy Harding**, Queensland,  
Griffith University



# Perspectives on COVID-19



**Marc Sim**, Western Australia, Edith Cowan University



**Niloufar Ansari**, Victoria, Monash University



**Sabashini Ramchand**, Harvard University, United States



**Tian Nie**, Victoria, University of Melbourne



**Emma Buckels**, University of Auckland, NZ



**Alexander Rodriguez**, Queensland



**Natalie Wee**, Victoria, St. Vincent's Institute of Medical Research





## ECIC Virtual Coffee Catch-Ups



Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, there has been a great deal of uncertainty in academia. This is especially concerning for ECIs where immediate research productivity is key to future success. Considering most of Australia and New Zealand were under lockdown measures, the ECIC planned an informal series of 'coffee catch-up' sessions amongst members. The goal of the first session was to generate discussion regarding the impact of Covid-19 for musculoskeletal research. Thank you to Prof. Natalie Sims and other senior members (Prof. Peter Ebeling, Prof. Markus Siebel, Dr. Agnes Arthur, A/Prof. Joshua Lewis) who provided valuable input during the first coffee catch-up. Our second coffee-catch up was focused on how to play the research game with Dr. Agnes Arthur and Prof. Robin Daly. This was a very vibrant and interactive session with many useful tips and suggestions shared. Our third coffee catch-up was focused on making mentorship work with Prof. Sharon Brennan-Olsen, A/Prof. Paul Baldock, and A/Prof. Joshua Lewis who shared their experiences, thoughts and tips. There were great questions asked and experiences shared by attendees as well. Stay tuned for details on the next coffee catch-up (#ANZBMSCoffeeCatchup).

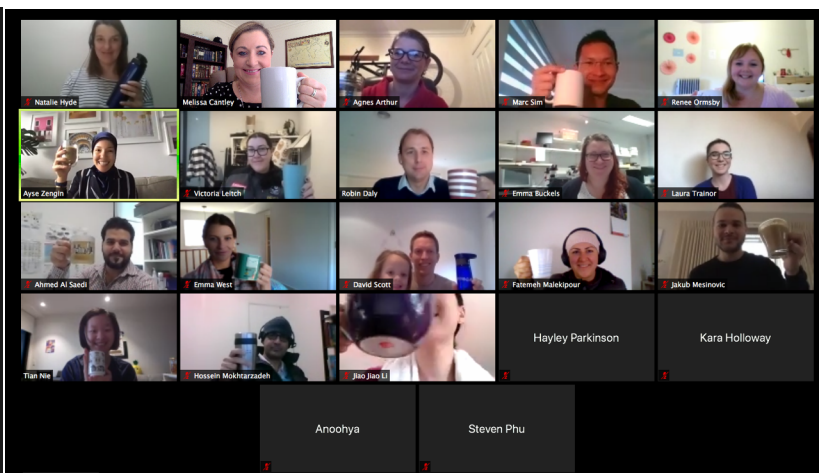


***Thank you to our featured speakers, Prof. Natalie Sims, Prof. Robin Daly, Dr. Agnes Arthur, Prof. Sharon Brennan-Olsen, A/Prof. Paul Baldock, and A/Prof. Joshua Lewis, for sharing their wisdom with us!***



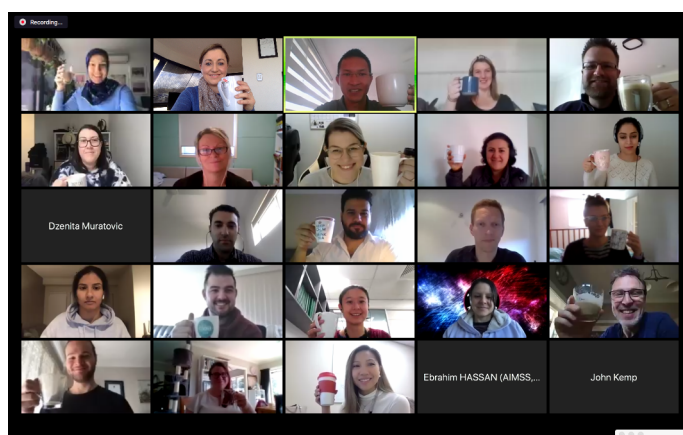
Coffee Catch-up #1 (25 attendees)

***'The impact of Covid-19 for musculoskeletal research'***



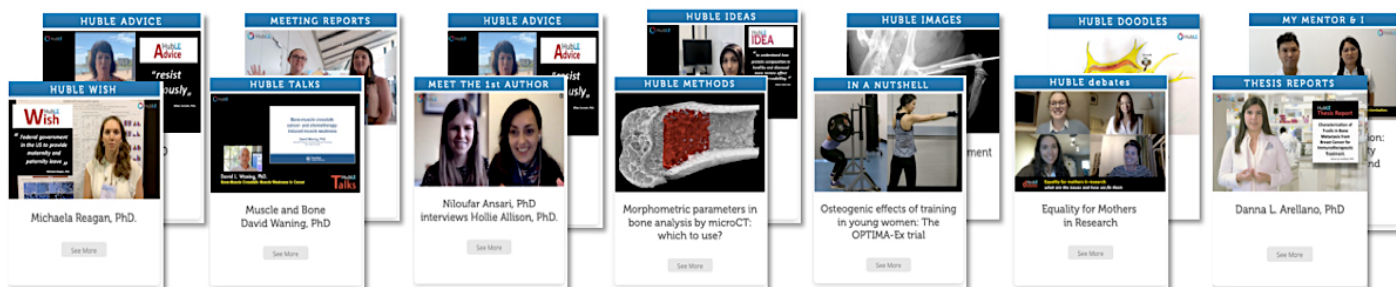
Coffee Catch-up #2 (27 attendees)

***'How to play the research game'***



Coffee Catch-up #3 (31 attendees)

***'Making mentorship work'***



HubLE is the International Federation of Musculoskeletal Research Societies (IFMRS) **international** and **educational new-investigator-led open learning and sharing** environment.

HubLE provides an **online open-access hub** for **New Investigators** to **learn** and **disseminate** their research findings using a plethora of features that include:

- **Educational lectures:** 'HubLE Talks'
- **Scientific articles and protocols:** 'HubLE My Mentor & I Perspectives' and 'HubLE Methods'
- **Opinion pieces:** 'HubLE In a Nutshell' and 'HubLE Snippet'
- **Educational video reports:** 'Meeting Reports', 'HubLE Ideas' and 'Thesis Reports'
- **Video interviews debates:** 'Meet the 1st Author' and 'Meeting Reports'
- **Interactive video discussions:** 'HubLE debates'
- **InfoGraphics:** 'HubLE Infographic', 'HubLE Images' and 'HubLE Doodle'
- **'HubLE Advice' video clips** by **leaders** in the musculoskeletal field



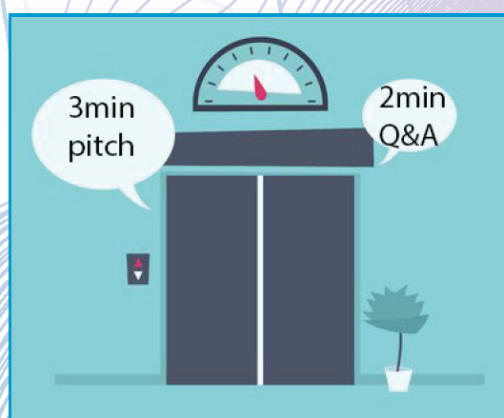


# 30<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND BONE AND MINERAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING **VIRTUAL**

## **ECIC NETWORKING BREAKFAST**

STOP, COLLABORATE AND LISTEN

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2020: 8:30 – 9:30 AM**



- » An online networking session to encourage collaboration between early career investigators.
- » Listen to others and pitch your own research in short sharp presentations.  
Each pitch will cover:

- 1. What have you done? background and expertise**  
*e. g. basic scientist with expertise in histomorphometry*
- 2. What are you doing? research theme**  
*e. g. using mouse models of sex hormone deficiency*
- 3. What do you want to do? collaboration opportunities**  
*e.g. cell culture expert required for a set of experiments*

**ECIS WHO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT A 3-MINUTE ELEVATOR PITCH (no slides)**

[www.anzbmsconference.org](http://www.anzbmsconference.org)



**ANZBMS**  
Early Career  
Investigator Committee

# Awards/Scholarships Received

A huge congratulations to the following ECIs on their amazing achievements!!!



**Ahmed Al Saedi, Jason Talevski, Lena Batoon & Jack Feehan**

ASBMR Young Investigator Awards for ECTS Digital Course in PhD Training



**Sabashini Ramchand**

AIMM /ASBMR  
John Haddad Young  
Investigator Award



**Ayse Zengin**

Victorian Young Tall  
Poppy Award



**Dzenita Muratovic & Martha Blank**

International Society of Bone  
Morphometry Imaging Contest Winners



***ECIs if you have received any awards, funding etc please email us [ecnewsletter@anzbms.org.au](mailto:ecnewsletter@anzbms.org.au). We would love to share and celebrate your success!***



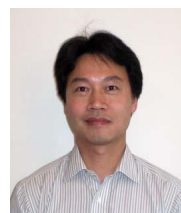
Congratulations to Prof.  
Peter Ebeling on being  
elected as the first ASBMR  
President-Elect outside of  
North America!



Congratulations to  
ANZBMS President Prof.  
Natalie Sims on receiving  
the prestigious ASBMR  
2020 Paula Stern  
Achievement Award!



Congratulations to Prof.  
Ego Seeman on receiving  
the IOF President's Award  
for his significant  
contribution to the bone  
field!



Congratulations to the 2020 Class of ASBMR  
Fellows: Prof. Robin Daly, Prof. Jiake Xu, A/Prof.  
Nathan Pavlos & A/Prof. Joshua Lewis

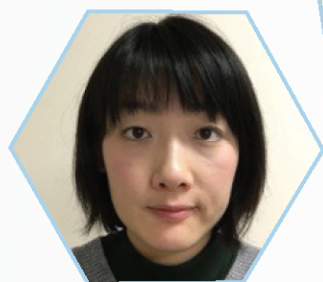


# 30<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND BONE AND MINERAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING **VIRTUAL**

## 12<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER SAVE THE DATE

### INTERACTIVE ORAL & POSTER SESSIONS & VIRTUAL BOOTHS

RUNNING OVER 3 HALF DAYS INCLUDING PLENARY & AWARD SESSIONS



**Yuki Yoshimoto**

Specialty Appointed Research  
Associate, Hiroshima  
University, Japan  
*The functional role of  
Scleraxis in enthesis formation*



**Jennifer Byrne**

NSW Health Pathology  
Australia  
*Tissue Bio-banking  
in Research*



**Harald Jueppner**

Massachusetts General Hospital  
USA  
*PTH resistance syndrome*

**EARLY-BIRD  
REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE:  
SEPT 11<sup>th</sup>  
2020**

[www.anzbmsconference.org](http://www.anzbmsconference.org)



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