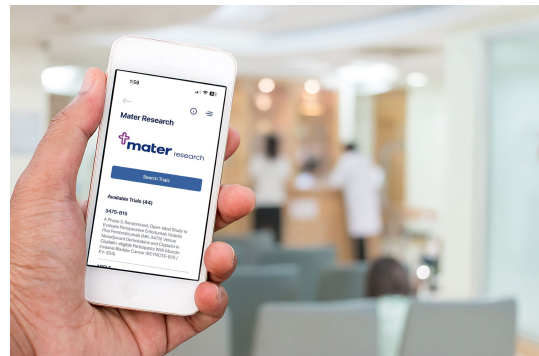




September Newsletter 2023

Mater Research Joins ClinTrial Refer



We are very excited to welcome Mater Research to the rapidly expanding ClinTrial Refer community! Mater is an established clinical trial site committed to turning scientific discovery into the best possible care, treatment and outcomes for patients and the broader community. Mater trials are conducted to the highest standards of patient safety and data integrity.

“As a Clinical Research unit that provides clinical trials across multiple therapeutic domains, Mater has found ClinTrial Refer invaluable to ensure that both patients and treating teams are aware of all the available options when determining treatment pathways.”

-Donna Harvey, Senior Clinical Trial Coordinator - Medical Oncology, Mater Research

Mater conducts clinical trials in a range of therapeutic areas including:

- Maternal and Neonatal Care
- Endocrinology and Metabolic Medicine
- Acute Care
- Surgical Services
- Neurosciences
- Oncology, Haematology and Palliative Care

- Gastroenterology and Hepatology
- Kidney Services
- Respiratory and Infectious Disease

These trials include commercial pharmaceutical and medical device studies, as well as collaborative group studies and investigator-initiated studies led by Mater's researchers and collaborators at The University of Queensland and other leading Australian international medical research institutions.

Download the ClinTrial Refer App or visit the [website](#) to start searching for clinical trials at Mater Research today!



Lymphoma Australia is one of ClinTrial Refer's valued supporters and September is Lymphoma Awareness month! Shining a limelight on lymphoma leads to earlier diagnosis, better access to treatments, and support for a cure.

7,400 Australians will be diagnosed with lymphoma this year, which equates to 20 people per day. Help Lymphoma Australia fund a new lymphoma care nurse to make sure no one faces lymphoma alone or visit [here](#) to learn about the many ways you can get involved in raising awareness.

ClinTrial Refer has more than 100 trials for Lymphoma in the database. Download the App or visit the [ClinTrial Refer website](#) to start searching today.

Client Spotlight- Ramsay Clinic Northside



Ramsay Health Care



Since its launch in 2017, the Ramsay Health Care Clinical Trials Network has experienced remarkable growth. Among its newest additions is Ramsay Clinic Northside (RCN-CTU), St Leonards, NSW, established in January 2023.

According to Clinical Trials Coordinator, Laura Beesley, the primary focus at RCN-CTU is on quality data and patient care. Building strong relationships with patients and ensuring their comfort during the trials are key aspects of their day-to-day interactions.

The RCN-CTU team consists of a dedicated group of core staff members who work collaboratively to run the clinical trials. Notably, Clinical Trials Coordinators Laura Beesley, Ivana Solaja, and Ania Harvey, who receive invaluable support from Study Psychiatrists Clara Massaneda Tuneu, Connie Kaufmann, and Michael Bull as well as Site Principal Investigators Colleen Loo, Sloane Madden, and Donel Martin.

As a new unit, the team expressed deep appreciation for the hard work and support provided by their Research Nurses - Lucia Wang, Dalia Moreno, and Mei Jian.

"We were lucky when we started the studies here, we stepped into a really well-oiled machine," Laura said.

Currently, RCN-CTU oversees two trials.

Led by Professor Colleen Loo, the Randomised Controlled Trial of Frontoparietal and Temporoparietal Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) for Severe Depression (RAFT ECT Study) compares two forms of ECT.

This study aims to determine whether Frontal ECT can serve as a comparable treatment to Traditional ECT for treatment-resistant depression, with the hope of reducing cognitive side effects.

"It's the first clinical study at Northside," Laura said. **"If the hypothesis is shown to be correct it will likely change the way ECT is delivered, and Temporoparietal ECT will be taken over by Frontoparietal."**

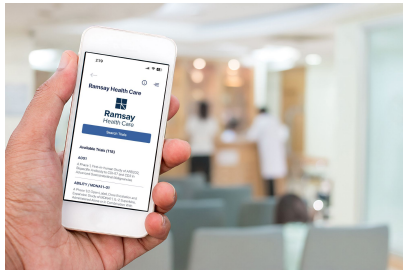
"There's a huge stigma towards ECT, which has a lot to do with movies," said Study Psychiatrist Clara Massaneda Tuneu. **"It's a shame because it's the most effective treatment for treatment resistant depression."**

The RCN-CTU is also conducting The Trial of Enhanced Neurostimulation for Anorexia (TRENA), led by Dr Donel Martin and Professor Sloane Madden. TRENA explores two non-invasive brain stimulation treatments – Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) and Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (TDCS) – as potential treatment options for anorexia nervosa patients.

"Both of the studies are aimed at improving the mental wellbeing of patients and are ground breaking in their own right," Laura said. **"There could be significant impact for both patients with anorexia nervosa and treatment resistant depression."**

Beyond these trials, Ramsay Clinic Northside offers a comprehensive range of treatment programs, including mood disorders, schizophrenia, psychosis, personality disorders, eating disorders, combat-related PTSD, drug and alcohol detoxification, and rehabilitation.

For any inquiries or questions, please reach out to Laura Beesley at beesleyl@ramsayhealth.com.au or refer to the ClinTrial Refer App!



Q&A Triple Negative Breast Cancer

Breast Cancer Trials Q&A

TRIPLE NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

Moderated by Author and Journalist Annabel Crabb

Tuesday 24 October, 4:30-6pm (AEDT)



With Breast Cancer Awareness Month just around the corner in October, ClinTrial Refer partner Breast Cancer Trials (BCT) are reflecting on how far clinical trials research has come since BCT first began in 1978, which has improved treatments, prevention strategies, and patient quality of life. However, there is still a lot more to be done, with more than 20,640 people being diagnosed with breast cancer this year.

Triple negative breast cancer accounts for approximately 15% of all breast cancers. As the name suggests, triple negative breast cancer does not have any of the three receptors that are commonly found on breast cancer cells – oestrogen, progesterone, and HER2 receptors.

Triple negative breast cancer is a more aggressive type of tumour, with a faster growth rate, and a higher risk of spreading to other parts of the body (metastasis), and of recurrence either in the breast or elsewhere. Because it does not have any of the more common receptors that can be targeted by medications, such as hormone and HER2-blocking drugs, it has fewer treatment options available.

Join BCT from 4:30-6pm (AEDT) for their latest free and online Q&A event, where you will hear firsthand from women who have a history of this type of cancer, and from world-leading researchers on the latest in research and clinical trials to improve treatments and patient outcomes.

Moderated by Author and Journalist Annabel Crabb, a panel of experts for the event includes:

- **Professor Sherene Loi:** Medical Oncologist specialising in breast cancer treatment, and a clinician scientist with experience in genomics, immunology, and drug development.
- **Ms Diane Barker:** Diagnosed with locally advanced triple-negative breast cancer in 2020, at just 44 years old.
- **Ms Karen Alexander:** Diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer in 2011 and carries a BRCA1 gene mutation. Following her cancer diagnosis, genetic testing found the BRCA1 gene mutation present in her mother, both her aunts, her female cousins, and one of her male cousins.
- **Professor Sunil Lakhani:** Clinical Diagnostic Pathologist and also heads a research team comprising scientists and clinicians, ensuring a translational focus to the program.
- **Dr Jocelyn Lippey:** Breast Surgeon based in Melbourne, her research interests include DCIS, risk communication, tailored breast screening, qualitative research, and patient-reported outcome measures.

For more information or to register, [click here](#).



Trial Spotlight



On average 28 trials are listed in the ClinTrial Refer database every month

We aim to highlight some of these in our newsletter each month

Search CTR website 

Do you have something to share?

Share your story if you have taken part in a clinical trial or supported someone through a trial. Your stories and thoughts are important to us and can be a great encouragement to others. If you'd like to share a clinical trial story please email us at admin@clintrialreferapp.com. We'd love to hear from you.



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