

Media Release

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South Western Sydney Local Health District and Ingham Institute congratulate leading researchers

South Western Sydney Local Health District and the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research are pleased to congratulate three staff members who have won prestigious awards in their fields of medical research.

Staff from the District and the Institute attended the combined meeting of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR), Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine, and the Australian Institute of Radiography in Melbourne this month.

Research Director at Ingham, Professor Michael Barton, was awarded the RANZCR Rouse Travelling Fellowship.

The prize allows Prof Barton to travel to New Zealand to present his research to the NZ Annual General Meeting and to visit a number of centres, while also talking at the workshop on Image Guided Radiotherapy in Wellington.

Prof Barton said it was an honour to be acknowledged.

“It was a great opportunity to highlight our world-leading research at the Ingham Institute and Liverpool Hospital,” he said.

The Ingham Institute’s Dr Trang Pham, who is a Radiation Oncology Postgraduate Fellow, was awarded the Withers & Peters Grant, for her commitment to work involving the use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) in rectal cancer.

Radiation Oncologist for Liverpool and Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centres, Dr Mei Ling Yap, was awarded the RANZCR FRO Chris Atkinson Prize for the best scientific presentation for her work: *Estimating the global need for radiotherapy: a study as part of the global taskforce in radiotherapy for cancer control*.

The Project estimated the number of cancer patients in every country in the world who would benefit from receiving radiotherapy, and highlighted the urgent need for cancer patients to have equitable access to radiotherapy.

Ms Yap said her project was a District and Institute collaboration.

“This could not have been achieved without brilliant research mentors, wonderful colleagues at Liverpool and Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centres, and of course our amazing patients who are a constant source of inspiration,” she said.

Staff from Liverpool and Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centres delivered more than a dozen presentations over the three days of combined meetings.

South Western Sydney Local Health District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said the high level of participation from District staff identifies a high standard of ongoing commitment.

“Well done to all involved,” she said.

Accolades like this help confirm our departments as leading academic radiation oncology centres and show how we are committed to continuous quality improvement through education and innovation.”