Research Seminar  
Thursday 23\textsuperscript{rd} October 2014, 3:30 – 4:30pm  
Inaugural meeting at Lifehouse of this long-running seminar series followed by light refreshments - all welcome

Where  
The Chris O’Brien Lifehouse  
Level 5 Education Centre  
119-143 Missenden Road, Camperdown, NSW

Does the rising cost of anticancer drugs actually matter? A PhD progress update

Speaker  
Dr Deme Karikios PhD candidate, NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre

Abstract  
Deme will be presenting the progress of a number of research projects as work towards his PhD. This work has been inspired by the perception of many oncologists that there are a growing number of unfunded anticancer drugs which is arguably a result of the rising cost of new anticancer drugs. The research is exploring the impact of price on the approval of anticancer drugs and how the practice of medical oncology is being affected by the high out-of-pocket cost of unfunded anticancer drugs for patients.

Biography  
Deme Karikios is undertaking a PhD entitled “The costs of new anticancer drugs and their effects” at the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, Sydney, under the primary supervision of Prof. Martin Stockler. Deme is also a part time medical oncologist at Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre at Campbelltown hospital with a clinical interest in gastrointestinal, genitourinary and thoracic malignancies. He recently published a paper in Internal Medicine Journal - “The rising cost of anticancer drugs in Australia” as part of his PhD work. His research interests include costs and cost-effectiveness of anticancer drugs, decision making and preferences for expensive unfunded anticancer drugs and cancer care policy. Deme is an executive member of the Medical Oncology Group of Australia.

Recruiting to a prevention study using mainstream and social media: the T4DM experience

Speaker  
Karen Bracken Project Manager, NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre

Abstract  
T4DM is a large, phase 3, multicentre prevention study currently recruiting in 5 centres across Australia. The study looks at whether testosterone injections (in combination with lifestyle change) can reduce the risk of diabetes in men who have pre-diabetes and low testosterone.

Our challenge is to find 30,000 men in the community aged 50-74 who are willing to be screened for the study. This presentation will review the strategies used thus far to recruit the study: which strategies have worked well; which have not worked well and where we plan to go from here. It will also examine the parts that traditional media (TV, newspaper and radio), social media and advertising have played. In a broader context, it is interesting to consider the potential role of social media in the clinical trials of the future. For more information, visit www.diabetesprevention.org.au

Biography  
Karen is a project manager at the NHMTC CTC, managing several clinical trials. She works on oncology and diabetes trials but today will be discussing her experiences with recruiting to a large diabetes prevention study currently running around Australia.

Chair  
Dr Sonia Yip Senior Translational Research Fellow & Manager, NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre

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