

# INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PANEL

## **John Ferguson, Co-Chair (ICEG nominee)**

Associate Professor John Ferguson is a microbiologist and infectious diseases physician with John Hunter Hospital Newcastle, NSW, and a conjoint associate professor with the University of Newcastle. He is currently Director of the Infection Prevention Service for Hunter New England Health and a member of the Infection Control Expert Group (ICEG) since May 2020.

His interests include healthcare-associated infection and antibiotic resistance and stewardship. He was on the writing group for the National Antibiotic Guidelines for 12 years and formerly Chair of the Healthcare-associated Infection Advisory Committee at the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare for 5 years.

## **Philippa Hore, Co-Chair (Taskforce nominee)**

Dr Phillipa Hore is a specialist anaesthetist at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne and a number of private hospitals. She is a past Chair of the Safety and Quality Committee of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and advises on ANZCA Professional Document development. She has governance and clinical advisory roles in a number of healthcare facilities and government organisations and is a member of the Victorian Perioperative Consultative Council.

## **Expertise in Infection Prevention and Control, and Infectious Diseases**

### **N. Deborah Friedman, Deputy Co-Chair**

Associate Professor Deb Friedman is the Medical Director of the Infection Prevention Control and Response (IPCAR) Team at the Victorian Department of Health, an infectious diseases specialist at Barwon Health in Geelong and an Associate Professor at Deakin University.

She received her MD in the area of Infection Control and hospital-acquired infections and completed a Masters of Public Health. She is active in clinical research with her main research interests being infections that develop in hospitalised patients, antimicrobial resistance and optimal antimicrobial use.

### **Andrew Stewardson**

Dr Andrew Stewardson is an infectious diseases physician at Alfred Health, Melbourne, where his duties include both direct patient care and infection prevention. He is Senior Research Fellow with the Infectious Diseases Department, Monash University, where his research focuses on the health and economic impact of antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections, the transmission dynamics of antimicrobial resistance, and the implementation of infection prevention and control interventions.

He is a member of the Infection Control Expert Group (ICEG) and chair of the Healthcare Infection Control Special Interest Group (HICSIG) within the Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases (ASID).

## **Expertise in Infection Prevention and Control**

### **Kathy Dempsey, Deputy Co-Chair**

Kathy Dempsey is the NSW lead Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner at the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission and a credentialed expert Infection Prevention and Control clinician. Holding many positions on state, national and international bodies. Kathy is currently a board director for the Australasian College of Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC); Chair of the College's Credentialling and Professional Standards Committee and has been a member of the Infection Control Expert Group (ICEG) since May 2020.

Her interests and experience span a broad base for all things infection prevention and control and includes healthcare, non-healthcare, aged care, biocontainment, outbreak management, health infrastructure, healthcare-associated infection; policy and guideline development, building resources and support and mentorship for all ICPs. Kathy has been on many state and national guideline writing groups and is a member of the Healthcare-associated Infection Advisory Committee at the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare. Kathy was also winner of two Australasian College of Health Services Management Leadership awards for outstanding leadership during 2020.

#### **Brett Mitchell, Deputy Co-Chair**

Professor Brett Mitchell has extensive clinical experience as well as strong academic and research skills. He has led nursing teams, research teams and infection prevention and control teams in both Australia and overseas. Brett has contributed to national work in Australia through his committee roles including the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC), and was the chair of a NHMRC Committee responsible for the 2019 National Infection Control Guidelines.

Brett has over 150 peer-reviewed publications, and has been an invited speaker at numerous infection prevention and control conferences in Australia and internationally. He is also Editor-in-Chief of Infection, Disease and Health, a Fellow of the Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control and the Australian College of Nursing. Brett is a conjoint at the Central Coast Local Health District (NSW) and has work in and with low-income countries in supporting infection control efforts.

### **Expertise in Occupational and Environmental Medicine**

#### **Malcolm Sim**

Malcolm Sim is an occupational and environmental physician who is an Emeritus Professor in the Monash University Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health. His research interests focus on identifying occupational hazards and disease prevention in the workplace. Malcolm is President of the Australasian Faculty of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and he is a member of ICEG, the Victorian Healthcare Worker Infection Prevention and Wellbeing Taskforce and the Worksafe Victoria OHS Advisory Committee. In 2019, Malcolm became a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to occupational and environmental medicine.

### **Expertise in Occupational Hygiene**

#### **Kate Cole**

Kate Cole is a Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH)<sup>®</sup>, Engineer and Winston Churchill Fellow. Named as one of the Top 100 Women of Influence by the Australian Financial Review, she is a passionate advocate for protecting the health and safety of workers. Ms Cole has supported the COVID-19 pandemic through providing her specialist expertise on respiratory protection, ventilation, and health and safety more broadly. Ms Cole sits on the DHHS Victoria Healthcare Worker Infection Prevention and Wellbeing Taskforce Prevention Mechanisms Sub-group and was part of the National Clinical Taskforce who revised the Healthcare-Associated Infection Standard for the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. Ms Cole is the current President-Elect of the Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists.

### **Expertise in Clinical Engineering**

#### **Barry Tam**

Barry Tam is a building services engineer and Chair of the Expert Reference Group, Health Infrastructure NSW. A contributing member of this group for 10 years, he is responsible for the development of the Engineering Services Guidelines for hospital projects in NSW. He also has a similar role with School Infrastructure NSW.

Barry has over 40 years of experience in building services, with stints in the UK and Asia, including 32 years in Australia. His experience includes the design of a large number of hospitals and other major institutional projects. He led a consulting practice in Sydney for 20 years before ceasing full time practice and taking on the ERG role with HI NSW.

## Expertise in Primary Care

### **Penny Burns**

Associate Professor Penny Burns is a general practitioner who has worked in urban and rural general practice in Australia and Papua New Guinea. She is currently working in general practice in the Northern Beaches of Sydney where she is involved in an AZ COVID vaccination clinic. She also works at a Pfizer COVID vaccination hub at Westmead Hospital, and at a General Practice Respiratory Assessment Clinic in Sydney.

Penny is a Clinical Associate Professor with the Australian National University and a conjoint senior lecturer at Western Sydney University. She is a member of the ATAGI COVID Working Group on Vaccination Prioritisation and the RACGP COVID Working Group. She is the RACGP representative on the National Immunisation Committee, and a member of the Expert Reference Group Australian Partnership (for) Preparedness Research on Infectious Disease Emergencies (APPRISE). She is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance.

Her interests include infectious disease, pandemics and disasters. She chaired the Pandemic Taskforce for the 2014 RACGP Pandemic Flu Kit for general practice, and has contributed to various guidelines for GPs during the current pandemic, and to pandemic content for medical students in the upcoming edition of Murtagh's Textbook of General Practice.

## Expertise in Care of Older People

### **Melanie Dicks**

Melanie Dicks is a registered nurse and an aged care consultant with 30 years experience in nursing and aged care. She has a Master in Health Service Management and is currently a senior manager with EY. She has been a member of the Infection Control Expert Group since Nov 2020. In 2020 she managed two COVID-19 outbreaks within aged care facilities in NSW and presented her experience to the Aged Care Royal Commission.

Melanie is passionate about enhancing the lives of vulnerable persons, especially older people and she is focused on the provision of person-centred care for older people.

Experience in providing COVID-19 Nursing Care.

### **Cherylynn McGurgan**

Cherylynn McGurgan is a Clinical Nurse Specialist and Equipment Nurse working in the Emergency Department at The Royal Melbourne Hospital (RMH). She has a Bachelor of Health Science (Nursing), Grad Dip Critical Care and Cert in Tropical Medicine. As well as her role on the Taskforce IPC Panel, Cherylynn is also a member of the Victorian Department of Health Healthcare Worker Infection Prevention and Wellbeing Taskforce.

Cherylynn is passionate about the role clinical simulation plays in learning, developing and fine-tuning new skills for application in a clinical environment. She is the Victorian and Tasmanian regional co-ordinator for the College of Surgeons Early Management of Severe Trauma (EMST) course and co-ordinator for RMH Emergency Department's Emergency Resuscitation with Ultrasonography: a Simulation (ERUSC) Course. She is also an active member of RMH Emergency Department's (ED) multi-disciplinary Education Committee and is responsible for planning and co-ordinating a number of the ED's intra-departmental education programs.

In 2020, Cherylynn was deployed with the AusMAT COVID-19 response team to repatriate Australian citizens from Wuhan China to Howard Springs, Northern Territory, as well as being actively involved in the establishment and running of COVID community screening clinics in Melbourne.

## Expertise in Critical Care and Infectious Diseases

### **Steve McGloughlin**

Associate Professor Steve McGloughlin is an intensive care physician and infectious diseases physician at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. Since 2017 he has been the director of the Alfred ICU, a 56-bed quaternary intensive care unit specialising in trauma, advanced cardiac support, ECMO and burns.

He was the chair of the ANZICS COVID-19 guideline committee and has been a member of the Australian Therapeutic Guidelines writing committee for the past 8 years and also on the most recent version of the Surviving Sepsis Guideline. He has a Masters of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and also an International Masters of Health Leadership.

## Expertise in Operative/Perioperative Care

### **Nicole King**

Nicole King is the Infection Control Coordinator at the Mater Hospital in Sydney. Previous to this she worked in Perioperative Nursing for 17 years, including as a Nurse Educator and Nurse Unit Manager.

Nicole is due to complete her Masters in Infectious Diseases Intelligence in June of 2021.

## Expertise in Women's Health

### **Bridget Ferguson**

Bridget Ferguson is a registered nurse/midwife, currently employed as a midwifery academic at Central Queensland University. Bridget holds a Master of Public Health, Master of Midwifery and is currently undertaking her PhD.

Bridget has worked as a clinical midwife, nurse and educator throughout Australia, Papua New Guinea, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, and Bermuda. Her professional interests lie in universal health care, human rights, and supporting women throughout the childbearing continuum.

## Expertise in Paediatric and Adolescent Health

### **Briony Hazleton**

Dr Briony Hazelton is a paediatric infectious diseases physician at Perth Children's Hospital and clinical microbiologist for PathWest Laboratory Medicine, WA. She is the medical lead for the Infection Prevention & Control service at Perth Children's Hospital and paediatric representative for the WA Department of Health COVID-19 Infection Prevention & Control Clinical Advisory Group.

Her interests include the investigation and management of infection in women and children and the prevention of healthcare associated infection in these populations.

## Expertise in Emergency Care

### **Sally McCarthy**

Professor Sally McCarthy is a specialist emergency medicine physician with an MBA. She has held multiple leadership roles within the health system and beyond, and was recently elected as the first female president of the International Federation for Emergency Medicine. Sally has a keen interest in global emergency care, is an active researcher with a focus on innovation through better systems of care, and has received distinguished awards for her work.

Sally works clinically as a senior emergency physician at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney and is Director of Emergency Medicine at the South East Regional Hospital in Bega, having previously been ED Director at POW, and other tertiary hospitals. A past-President of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine and current chair of the ACEM National Program Steering Committee, Sally was also founding Medical Director of the Emergency Care Institute at the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation.