

# CLINICAL & HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP



## OVERVIEW

The Clinical and Health Psychology group is concerned with the application of psychological science and practice to the prevention and treatment of both physical and mental ill-health. We employ research primarily at the strategic and applied levels. At the strategic level, research enquires into factors disposing people to develop and maintain ill-health and poor coping while, at the applied level, research focuses on the effectiveness of strategies derived from strategic research for the promotion of healthy behaviour and the treatment of disorders.

## OBJECTIVES

Ill health is associated with varying degrees of distress, disability and impoverishment. Hence its prevention, cure or amelioration is a high priority throughout the world. Psychologists have developed many effective strategies for prevention and treatment, and thus have become vital members of multidisciplinary clinical and research teams in general practice, mental health, and medicine. At the regional level, the research of the Clinical and Health group will help to galvanise local service providers while, through publications and conference presentations, it will contribute to the health of Australians and to the improvement of clinical outcomes internationally.

## FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**NEWCASTLE**  
AUSTRALIA

## RESEARCH SUPPORT

Members of the research group are currently receiving external financial support from the National Health & Medical Research Council, Rotary Health Australia, and the Hunter Medical Research Institute.

## RESEARCH TOPICS

The current specific research interests of the group include:

- Health behaviour change; Interventions to reduce alcohol, smoking and other drug use (Bowman)
- The influence of mental health problems on parenting and the effect these problems have on child development (Campbell)
- Developmental psychopathology particularly autism spectrum disorders (Campbell)
- The study of behavioural phenotypes in genetic developmental disorders such as 22q11.2 deletion syndrome (or VCFS) and Williams syndrome (Campbell)
- Reproductive health psychology, Eustress and coping; Men's health (Johnson)
- Cognitive-behavioural therapy for the prevention or amelioration of psychotic disorders; Cognitive theories of psychotic symptoms (Startup)
- Effects of social group membership on mental health status; stigma, discrimination and mental illness; relationships between identity development and psychological well-being (Halpin)

## GROUP MEMBERS

A/Prof Jenny Bowman  
Dr Linda E. Campbell  
Ms Katrina Delamothe (Conjoint)  
Dr Barry Frost (Conjoint)  
Dr Sean Halpin  
Dr Martin Johnson  
Dr Kristine Kafer (Conjoint)  
Mr Steve Lee (Conjoint)  
Dr Wayne Levick (Conjoint)  
Ms Natalie McCall (Conjoint)  
Dr Janice Muir (Conjoint)  
Ms Vanessa Spiller (Conjoint)  
Prof. Mike Startup  
Ms Margaret Terry (Conjoint)  
Prof Trevor Waring (Conjoint)  
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## CONTACT

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