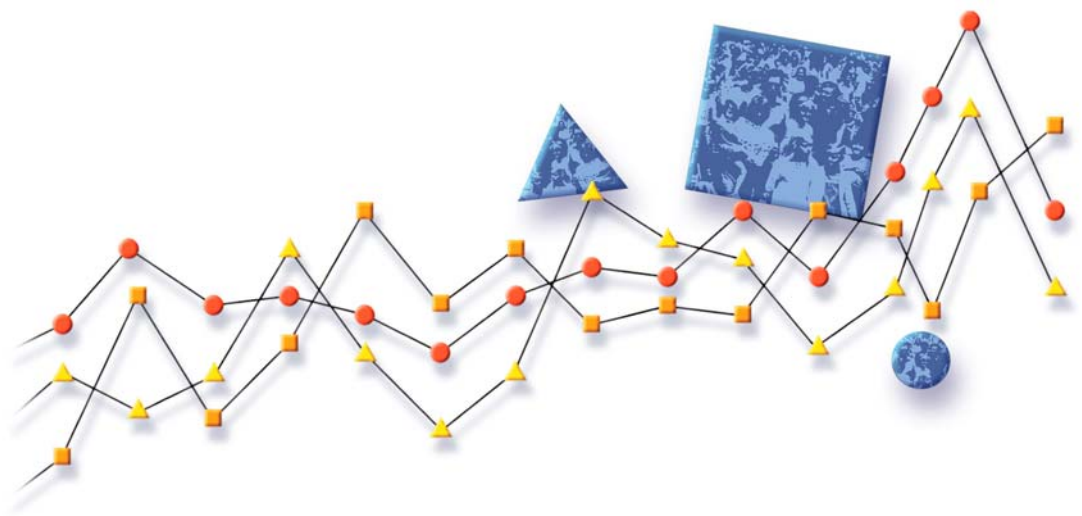
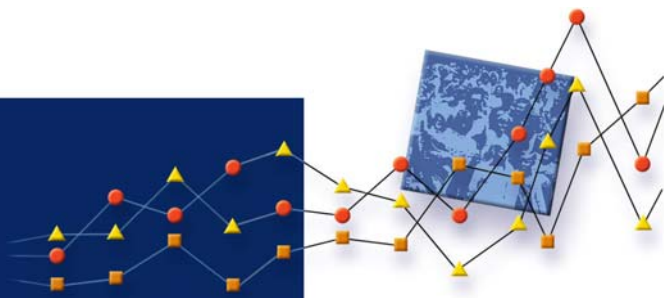


# Centre for Public Health Research

Annual Report 2003



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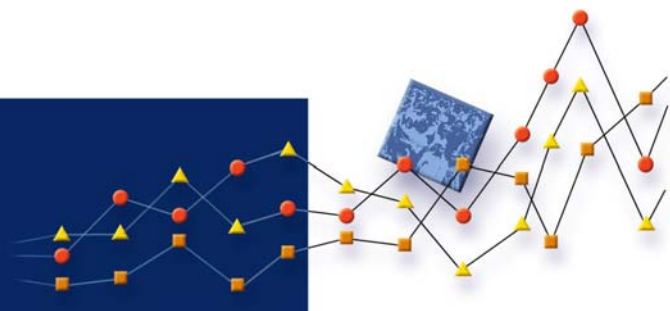
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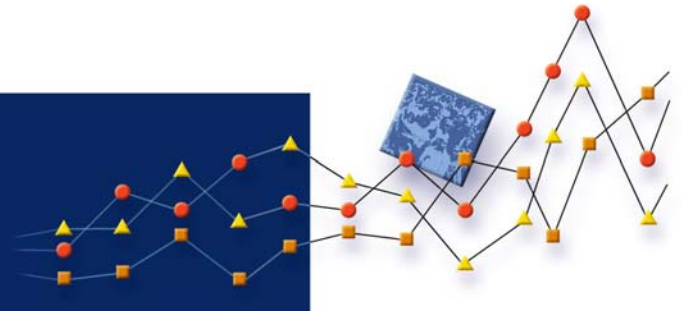
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## **Directors**

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Cindy Kiro – Associate Professor and Director of Waiora

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Dave McLean - Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Elizabeth Harding – Research Fellow

Helen Wilson – FRST Bright Futures Doctoral Research Fellow

Karen Blakey – Research Fellow

Lis Ellison-Loschmann – HRC Māori Health Research  
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Michelle Gray – Māori Health Research Fellow

Mona Jeffreys – Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Rochelle Berry – Research Fellow

Sunia Foliaki – Wellcome-Trust Research Fellow

## **Honorary Research Fellows**

Barry Borman – Epidemiology

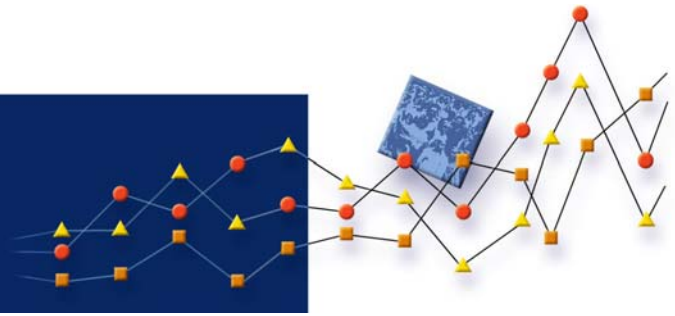
Bill Glass – Occupational Health

Chris Walls – Occupational Health

Evan Dryson – Occupational Health

Wendyl D'Souza - Neuroepidemiology

# Introduction

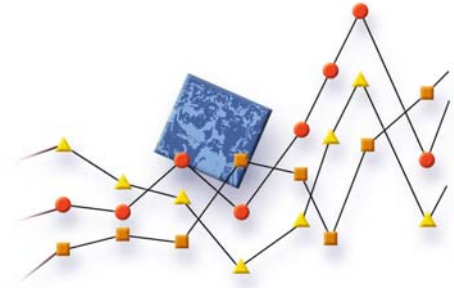


The Centre for Public Health Research is a multi-disciplinary team of researchers based on the Massey University Wellington campus. It is part of the Massey University Research School of Public Health, together with Te Pūmanawa Hauora, the Sleep/Wake Research Centre, the Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE) Centre and Whariki.

The Centre for Public Health Research was established in 2000. Our research programme covers all aspects of public health research, but with a focus on:

- Non-communicable disease (respiratory disease, cancer, diabetes)
- Māori health
- Pacific health
- Occupational health
- Environmental health
- Socio-economic determinants of health

The Centre for Public Health Research recognizes the importance of the Treaty of Waitangi and its relevance to our work. We have a long history of involvement with Māori research and policy development including the Māori Asthma Review and the Wairarapa Māori Asthma Project. Much of our Māori health research is done in collaboration with Te Pūmanawa Hauora, and our Māori asthma research involves a formal link with the Māori Committee of the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand. We are also committed to employing and training Māori health researchers.

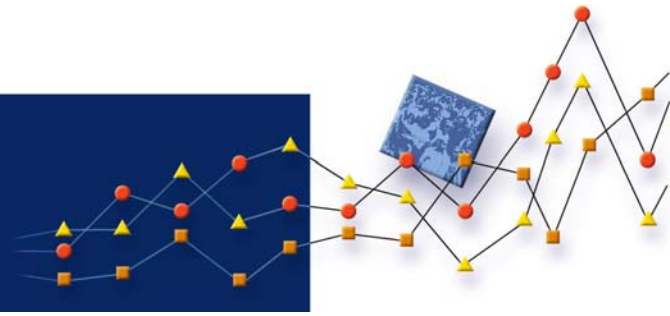


The Centre is based in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, but we also work with researchers at other Massey Colleges and campuses, as well as with researchers at other institutions including the Malaghan Institute for Medical Research (MIMR), the Airway Research Centre (John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, Australia), Public Health Intelligence (Ministry of Health), Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), the Health Services Research Centre (Victoria University), the Population and Environmental Health Group of the Institute for Environmental Science and Research (ESR), the Massey University Veterinary Epicentre, the Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences (IRAS) at the University of Utrecht (The Netherlands), and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).

Although our main activity is research, we also work with organisations such as the Ministry of Health, Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) and various non-governmental organisations, unions and companies to ensure that the findings of research are relevant to, and applied in, public health policy. In particular, we have served on a number of advisory committees for the Health Research Council, the Ministry of Health, ACC and OSH.

# Irihapeti Merenia Ramsden

24 February 1946 - 5 April 2003

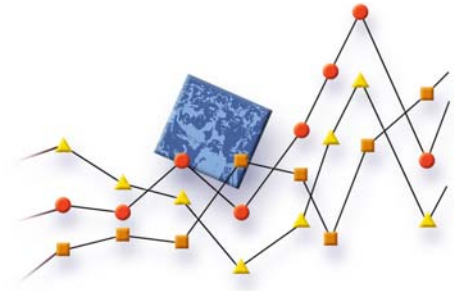


*As the voices of the world's First Peoples are beginning to be heard internationally this thesis adds another voice to the global debate on the current status of indigenous peoples, the historical and socio-economic processes which brought about those human states and the way in which such issues are approached by people in power.*

Irihapeti Ramsden, who belonged to the people of Ngai Tahupotiki and Rangitane, opened her PhD thesis with those words. Her doctorate, *Cultural Safety and Nursing Education in Aotearoa and Te Waipounamu*, was completed just months prior to her death in April of 2003.

Irihapeti trained as a registered general and obstetric nurse at Wellington Hospital. She worked in a range of areas including general nursing, respiratory medicine and public health before moving into nursing education. She is perhaps best known in Aotearoa and internationally for the development of Cultural Safety – an educational framework for the analysis of power relationships between health professionals and those they serve. Cultural Safety has been part of the New Zealand nursing and midwifery curriculum since 1992 and comprises 20% of the state registration examination for all nurses and midwives. Irihapeti negotiated the foundations for developing a process of ownership of the Cultural Safety curriculum between Otago Polytechnic and Ngai Tahupotiki iwi, an early example of exercising intellectual property rights. The International Council of Nurses, the oldest and largest international professional organization in the health field, representing nurses and nursing in 118 countries, recommended in 1995 that Cultural Safety be included in the education programmes of all national nurses associations.

Many times, Irihapeti was working in comparative intellectual and emotional isolation which could be a lonely place. She was an expert at seeing the 'big picture'. She linked Cultural Safety with wider aspirations and contexts common to indigenous peoples including notions of citizenship and sovereignty issues. Her later work developed these ideas further in recognising and drawing on the commonality between the experience of colonisation amongst indigenous peoples and the resultant cultural poverty and very real economic poverty which she was witnessing both here and overseas. A few of her other contemporaries also



recognised the potential legacy of Cultural Safety early on. Irihapeti's long time friend, lawyer and expert in the area of legal work on Māori rights, Moana Jackson, said in his interview with her:

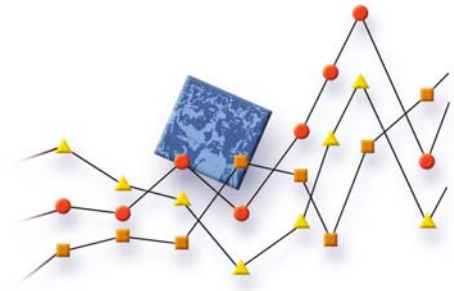
*Its [Cultural Safety] broadest strength I think ... is that it is a political idea and in the end remedying the ills of our people is a political and a constitutional issue, not in terms of the Beehive and Parliament, but in terms of changing the mindset of our people about our power and our powerlessness and so on.*

Irihapeti was diagnosed with cancer eight years ago but continued to work at an astounding pace. She found it difficult to say no to any request to speak as she believed it was an opportunity to increase people's knowledge and understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi and New Zealand history and the resultant consequences on Māori. Irihapeti was scathing of the fact that a comprehensive teaching approach regarding the treaty has never been an integral part of the mainstream New Zealand education curriculum.

Irihapeti's ideas were both challenging and threatening to many Pakeha New Zealanders who were, and are, often ignorant of the country's history and fearful of difference. She maintained it was impossible to understand or reverse the poor physical and mental health of Māori until the historical, social and political injustices faced by Māori were understood and addressed. The introduction of Cultural Safety was met with a barrage of negative, and sometimes vicious, media coverage, culminating in the threat of an inquiry into Cultural Safety by the Government's Education and Science Select Committee in 1995. Throughout this period Irihapeti not only calmly and eloquently responded to misrepresentations and accusations about the aims of Cultural Safety but continued to teach and work towards developing a robust education approach to the Treaty of Waitangi for tutors and student nurses and midwives that would facilitate opportunities for skilled analyses and an informed debate.

Her views were often as unpredictable as they were original. During the 150th commemorations of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1990 she was dismissive of the building of waka (war canoes) that were being hailed by Māori and Pakeha alike as an exciting rebirth of Māori tradition. They are nothing more than Māori frigates, she said, and simply reinforce the tired cliché of Māori



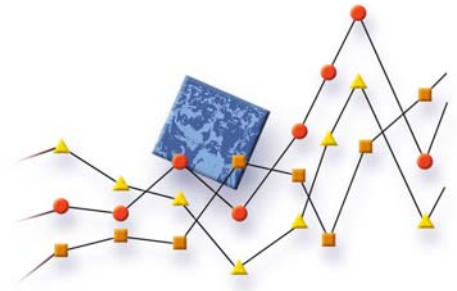


as warriors. "Once were gardeners, once were astronomers, once were philosophers, once were lovers," she declared in reference to the bestselling novel 'Once Were Warriors' by Māori novelist Alan Duff.

She viewed a "check list" approach to cultural understanding as not only misguided but dangerous and was sceptical of much of what passed for biculturalism in Aotearoa. Irihapeti was particularly impatient with the type of cultural window-dressing that has seen, for example, the saying of, usually Christian prayers in the Māori language at the start and finish of many public meetings. On more than one occasion she invited anyone attending the meeting who wanted to say a karakia (prayer) to leave the room "and get it over and done with". Irihapeti had far too much respect for Māori tikanga to want to see it plastered over a Pakeha framework in a vain attempt to give it credibility. There was no need to take on or assume the culture of others, she wanted people to be proud of and be true to themselves and where they had come from.

Irihapeti had many skills and interests. She was a writer and contributed extensively in terms of essays and co-authorship of books on a range of subjects including biographies, history and politics. She was a member of the Spiral Collective that published the novel 'The Bone People' which went on to win the 1985 Booker Prize and Pegasus Prize for Māori literature. She had a fascination with the Russian Tsars and their families. She enjoyed food and fine wines and hosted many planned and impromptu lunches and dinners. In her home she surrounded herself with things she loved; paintings, pounamu, books, silks, family photos. There was always at least one bunch of perfect flowers and frequently several in each room. Many of them had come from her own garden which she enjoyed immensely and was a source of inspiration and creativity.

She was a Council member of Lincoln University and sat on a number of other committees including the Health Sponsorship Council, the Ethics Committee and Māori Health Committee of the Health Research Council of New Zealand, the executive committee of the National Heart Foundation of New Zealand and the New Zealand Council for Educational Research. Irihapeti had a long standing interest and involvement in asthma research and asthma service development. She was a member of the Ministerial Māori Asthma Review Team in 1991, and a member



of the Māori Committee of the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand. Another area of interest was bioethics. Irihapeti was a Teaching Fellow in Bioethics at the Otago Medical School, Bioethics Research Centre and in 1997 she was appointed as the New Zealand representative to the International Board of Bioethics. Just weeks before her death Irihapeti was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit for her services to nursing and Māori health.

Irihapeti's wicked sense of humour and fun was widely enjoyed. She could tell extremely good and extremely bad jokes and laugh just as much at either. Her own upbringing, through her father and within her mother's extended family, had exposed her to a very wide range of ideas, discussion, encouragement of opinion and analysis of thought. It was those skills which she brought to all situations. Her favourite questions were: What do you think? What would you do? Why do you say that? She would address these questions to anyone, including young people. Irihapeti loved children and was always genuinely interested in what they thought about the world and how things were going for them. My children loved her, as did many others.

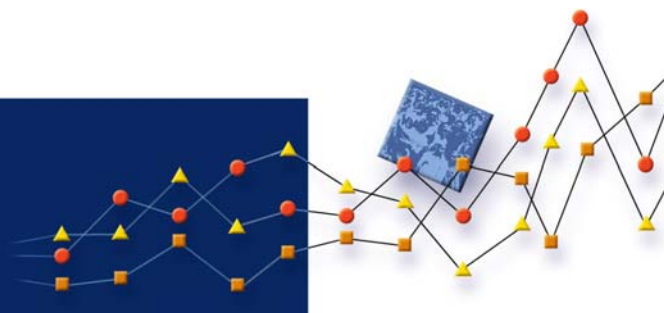
There was much to look forward to. Sharing in the life and success of her daughter and son, watching her grand-daughter grow up, hoping for more grandchildren. Irihapeti had been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship by the HRC to continue her work in Cultural Safety which she hoped would lead to the development of an international network and research environment for indigenous people who could comment upon and influence the development of health policy in their countries.

In 2001, invited to speak at the Grace Neil Memorial Lecture Series to commemorate 100 years of nursing registration in New Zealand, Irihapeti said, *"If there are three kinds of people; those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who never knew what hit them - let nurses be in the first category."* Irihapeti, you *lived* that first category and sometimes it is hard to accept what we have lost.

With love and thanks

From Lis Ellison-Loschmann and CPHR

## The Year in Review



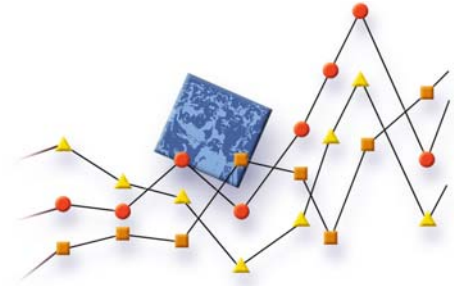
The last year has seen major developments in the work of the Massey University Centre for Public Health Research (CPHR) with the establishment of the Research School of Public Health, approval for the establishment of a Master of Public Health (MPH) programme, and considerable success in obtaining new research funding.

The Research School of Public Health was launched in May 2003 by the Minister of Health (Hon Annette King) and comprises the CPHR, Te Pūmanawa Hauora (Professor Chris Cunningham, Director), the Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE) Centre (Professor Sally Casswell, Director) and Whariki (Director, Helen Moewaka-Barnes), and the Sleep/Wake Research Centre (Professor Philippa Gander, Director). Three of the constituent centres are based in our building on the Massey Wellington campus.

Despite the current severe shortage of health research funding we had the most successful year to date with more than \$2 million of new funding, including two major occupational health grants from the Health Research Council (HRC), the award of an HRC Sir Charles Hercus Fellowship to Jeroen Douwes (Associate Director of CPHR), and a number of other research grants in asthma, cancer, and occupational health from Lotteries Health Research, the Cancer Society of New Zealand, and the Ministry of Health.

On a much sadder note, Dr Irihapeti Ramsden, an HRC Erihapeti Rehu-Murchie Postdoctoral Research Fellow, passed away after a long period of illness from cancer. A tribute to Irihapeti is on page 7. She is greatly missed.

## Non-Communicable Disease



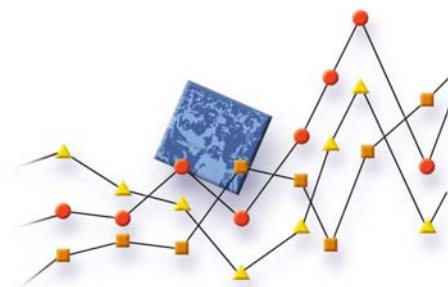
Our non-communicable disease research includes research into the causes and control of asthma, cancer, diabetes, and in more general health promotion and protection for non-communicable diseases.

Our asthma research programme has been enhanced by the award of an HRC Sir Charles Hercus Fellowship to Jeroen Douwes for asthma epidemiology, and a Massey University Postdoctoral Research Fellowship to Dr Christine van Dalen for clinical asthma studies. We are currently conducting two HRC-funded projects, both of which are being conducted in collaboration with the Malaghan Institute for Medical Research. The first study is examining the risk of asthma in farmers' children and their parents. The second study is investigating the importance and nature of allergic and non-allergic mechanisms for asthma. This study is being conducted in collaboration with the Airway Research Centre, John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, Australia.

We are also continuing to work on the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC). Neil Pearce is a member of the ISAAC Executive and the ISAAC Steering Committee. Sunia Foliaki is Regional Coordinator for Oceania and a member of the Steering Committee. We have completed the ISAAC Phase III study in Wellington, and in Tonga, Fiji Islands, Cook Islands, Samoa, Niue, Tokelau Islands, French Polynesia and New Caledonia.

Our cancer research programme has been greatly enhanced by the arrival of Dr Mona Jeffreys as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in cancer epidemiology. The programme now not only includes studies of occupational cancer (see below), but also studies of cancer survival (with funding from Lotteries Health Research) and a proposed case-control study of breast cancer.

## Occupational and Environmental Health



Our occupational health research programme has been greatly enhanced by the arrival of Dr Andrea 't Mannetje as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow, and the commencement of a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship by Dr Dave McLean (currently at the International Agency for Research on Cancer in Lyon, France).

We have received funding from the HRC, Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), Lotteries Health Research and the Cancer Society of New Zealand to conduct a series of case-control studies of bladder cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, leukemia and nasopharyngeal cancer, to

quantify the proportion of cases of these cancers due to known occupational exposures, and to identify new occupational causes of these cancers.

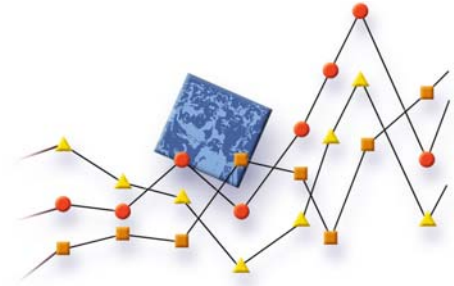
During 2003 we also received funding from the HRC for a study of the current and future burden of occupational ill health in New Zealand, and for a study of health outcomes in former New Zealand timber workers exposed to pentachlorophenol (PCP).

We are also assisting with a study of cell phones and brain tumours being conducted by Professor Alistair Woodward (Wellington School of Medicine).

## Māori Health

An investigation of asthma in Māori adolescents is being conducted by Lis Ellison-Loschmann, and Michelle Gray. Asthma prevalence is similar in Māori and non-Māori children, but Māori suffer from more severe

asthma and more long-term problems. This study involves surveying Māori adolescents, with current asthma symptoms, to examine the relationship between asthma severity and access to asthma



education and asthma health care in this young population.

We are also working with Te Runanga o Whaingaroa on the completion of a report on

Te Hauora Tamariki o Whaingaroa. This project was initiated by Dr Cindy Kiro and the Runanga prior to Dr Kiro taking leave to become the Commissioner for Children.

## Pacific Health

Sunia Foliaki is being funded by a Fellowship from the Wellcome Trust to coordinate the ISAAC Phase III study in the Pacific, and to develop a broader programme of research into the epidemiology of non-communicable disease in the Pacific. The ISAAC Phase III study is currently being conducted in Tonga,

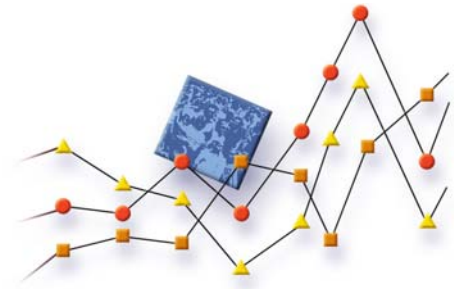
Samoa, Fiji Islands, Cook Islands, Niue, and the Tokelau Islands.

Ate Moala is conducting research into the development of a health promotion model for fanau Pasifiki and their families with funding from an HRC Pacific Health Research Training Fellowship.

## Teaching

In 2003 we conducted short courses in Epidemiology (introductory), Māori Health (conducted by Te

Pūmanawa Hauora) and Epidemiology and Biostatistics.



The Massey University Research School of Public Health Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme has now been approved. This includes a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health (PGDipPH) which involves the equivalent of one year fulltime study (four 25 point papers of which two are compulsory – the core paper, and a research project). The programme will involve an applied approach

to public health education and training that is different from existing public health qualifications, integrating public policy more strongly with public health, and also providing the opportunity for a greater emphasis on Maori health and Pacific health. Formal courses will not start until 2005, but an MPH-by-thesis option will be available in 2004 for candidates who have already completed an equivalent of the PGDipPH.

## Concluding Remarks

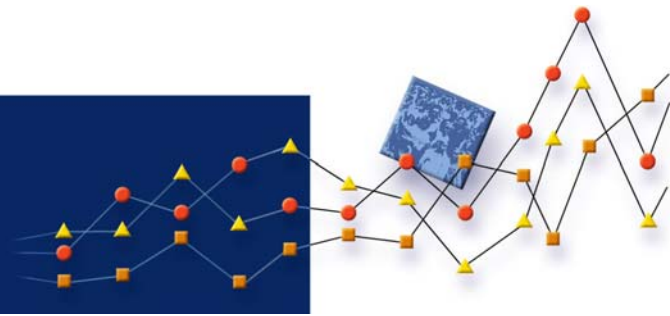
In closing we wish to thank all research collaborators involved in our various projects who have played an important role in ensuring a productive year, the agencies who have funded this programme of research,

and all those who have participated in our studies.

We also wish to thank Massey University and its staff for its excellent support for our research programme.

# Research Projects

## Projects completed during 2003



### AIMS:

1. To investigate mortality and cancer incidence in meat workers.
2. To ascertain which aspects of meat work may be associated with an increased risk of specific cancers.

**FUNDING:** Health Research Council of New Zealand

**RESEARCHERS:** Dave McLean, Neil Pearce, Andrea 't Mannetje, Soo Cheng

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Paolo Boffetta, Dr Paul Brennan (International Agency for Research on Cancer)

**KEY WORDS:** Cancer, Occupation

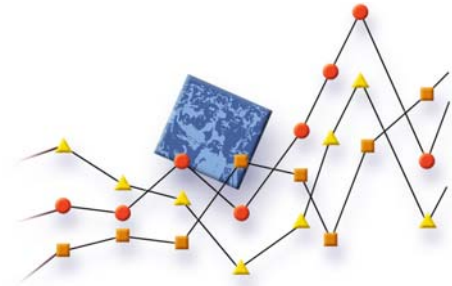
### KEY FINDINGS:

A significant excess of lung cancer was observed with a strong dose-response relationship for exposure to biological material contained in animal urine, faeces and blood (possibly oncogenic zoonotic viruses). Although numbers were small, the study also

provided limited support for previous findings of excess risks of leukaemia and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma associated in the meat industry, with an association between risk and increasing duration and level of exposure to biological material.



## 2. Occupational cancer in pesticide producers and sprayers exposed to dioxin



**AIMS:**

1. To examine the long-term effects on mortality and cancer incidence in production workers and pesticide sprayers exposed to phenoxy herbicides, chlorophenols and dioxin contaminants.

**FUNDING:** Lotteries Health Research

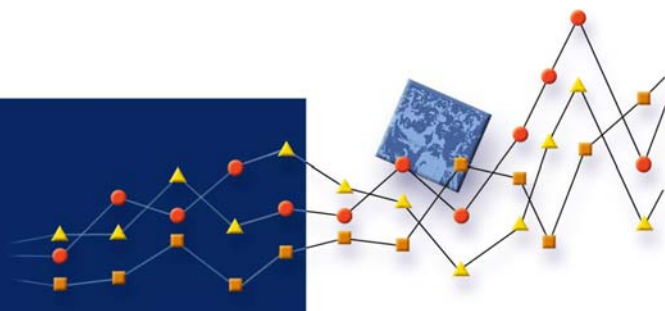
**RESEARCHERS:** Andrea 't Mannetje, Dave McLean, Neil Pearce, Soo Cheng

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Paolo Boffetta (International Agency for Research on Cancer)

**KEY WORDS:** Cancer, Occupation, Pesticides, Dioxin

## Current Research Projects

### Ongoing projects



### 3. The current and future burden of occupational ill health

#### **AIMS:**

1. To assess, through telephone interviews, current exposures and work practices in a random sample of the workforce.
2. To conduct more detailed exposure assessments in selected key industries through workplace visits, more detailed questionnaires, industrial hygiene measurements, and ergonomic assessments.
3. To further develop a New Zealand Job-Exposure-Matrix (NZ JEM) based on the categories of the New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (NZSCO).
4. To conduct analyses of occupational differences in mortality and cancer registration rates in New Zealand during 1998-2002 (with Public Health Intelligence, Ministry of Health).
5. To assess the current burden of occupational ill-health in New Zealand (with Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)).
6. To identify current and emerging hazards that account for, or will account for, a significant burden of occupational ill-health.

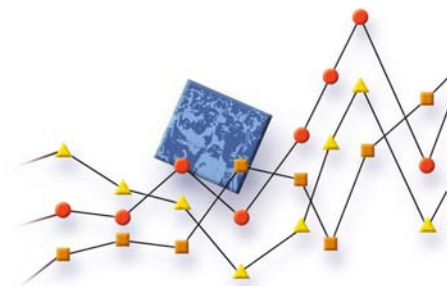
**FUNDING:** Health Research Council of New Zealand and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)

**RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce, Bill Glass, Dave McLean, Andrea 't Mannetje, Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Jeroen Douwes, Rochelle Berry, Karen Blakey

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Philippa Gander (Sleep/Wake Research Centre), Professor Stephen Legg, Dr Ian Laird (Centre for Ergonomics, Occupational Safety and Health), Dr Barry Borman, Craig Wright (Public Health Intelligence)

**KEY WORDS:** Occupational Health, Exposures

#### 4. Causes of morbidity, and factors affecting access to health services in Māori adolescents with asthma



##### **AIMS:**

1. To estimate the proportion of Māori students, with asthma or asthma symptoms, who are receiving asthma medication, asthma education and using asthma management plans.
2. To identify what factors affect asthma severity in Māori students.
3. To identify and describe barriers to accessing asthma health care and asthma education of experienced by Māori students.

**FUNDING:** Health Research Council of New Zealand

**RESEARCHERS:** Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Michelle Gray, Neil Pearce, Soo Cheng, Karen Blakey

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Māori

#### 5. Development of a model of health promotion for fanau Pasifiki and their families

##### **AIMS:**

1. To determine: (a) what constitute measurable positive Pacific health outcomes; (b) the key health indicators; (c) effective health promotion service delivery mechanisms; (d) the criteria for effective health promotion for fanau Pasifiki and their families.
2. To develop a Pacific health promotion model.
3. To perform an evaluation for the model on several 'case-study' health promotion programmes.

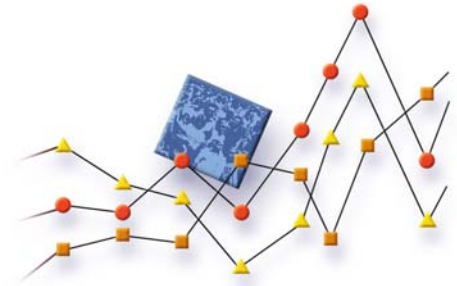
**FUNDING:** Health Research Council of New Zealand

**RESEARCHERS:** Ate Moala

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Sitaleki Finau (Fiji School of Medicine)

**KEY WORDS:** Health Promotion, Pacific Health

## 6. Asthma causation, mechanisms and prevention



### **AIMS:**

1. To assess whether atopic sensitisation can be reversed over time in a working adult population newly exposed to moderate to high levels of endotoxin.
2. To assess whether there is a dose-response between endotoxin exposure and change in atopic status.
3. To assess the time period in which the reduction in atopy takes place.
4. To assess the association between endotoxin exposure and lung function and respiratory symptoms.
5. To assess whether a change in atopic status is associated with a change in lung function and respiratory symptoms.
6. To assess the level of exposure at which the protective effect on atopy is most effective and the adverse effects on the airways (induced by non-atopic mechanisms) are minimal.

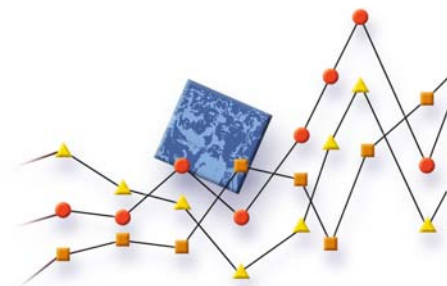
**FUNDING:** HRC Sir Charles Hercus Fellowship

**RESEARCHERS:** Jeroen Douwes, Neil Pearce, Christine van Dalen, Elizabeth Harding

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Graham Le Gros (Malaghan Institute of Medical Research)

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Occupational Health

## 7. ISAAC (International Study of Asthma And Allergies In Children). Phase III



### **AIMS:**

1. To describe the prevalence and severity of asthma, rhinitis and eczema in children living in different centres and to make comparisons within and between countries.
2. To conduct ecologic analyses of the association of asthma prevalence with factors such as diet, infections, immunisation, air pollution and allergen levels.
3. To examine trends in asthma prevalence over time.
4. To provide a framework for further etiological research into genetic, lifestyle, environmental and medical care factors affecting these diseases.

The International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC) was developed and organized together with colleagues in Auckland, London and Münster. This study now includes more than 1,000,000 children in more than 280 centres in 100 countries. Our involvement includes:

- Sunia Foliaki is Regional Co-ordinator for Oceania and a member of the ISAAC Steering Committee
- We are participating in the New Zealand ISAAC Phase III survey, and conducting the survey in Wellington.
- Neil Pearce is a member of the ISAAC Executive and ISAAC Steering Committee, and is the ISAAC Publications Co-ordinator.

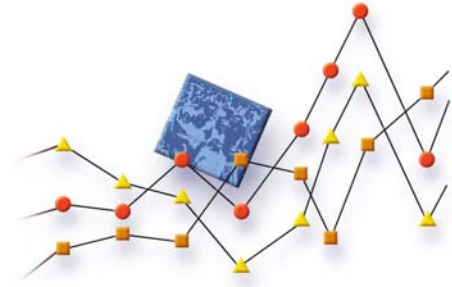
**FUNDING:** Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC), Wellcome Trust

**RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce, Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Sunia Foliaki, Soo Cheng

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Innes Asher (Auckland Medical School), Professor Bengt Björkstén (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm), Professor David Strachan (St George's Hospital Medical School, London), Professor Stephan Weiland (University of Ulm, Germany) and many other colleagues in more than 280 centres in 100 countries

**KEY WORDS:** ISAAC, Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Child Health

## 8. Non-allergic causes of asthma



### **AIMS:**

1. To study airway inflammation in asthmatic and non-asthmatic children.
2. To assess whether childhood asthma can be divided into two (or more) inflammatory sub-types: allergic and non-allergic asthma.
3. To assess the relative importance of non-allergic asthma in a random sample of asthmatic children.
4. To assess whether allergic and non-allergic asthmatics differ with respect with bronchial re-activity, skin prick test results, disease severity and medication use.

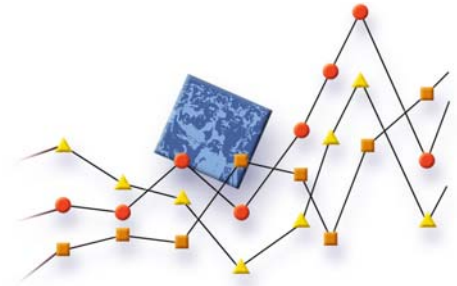
**FUNDING:** Health Research Council of New Zealand, Lotteries Health Research

**RESEARCHERS:** Elizabeth Harding, Jill Parkin, Jeroen Douwes, Neil Pearce, Catherine Cohet, Christine van Dalen, Karen Blakey

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Graham Le Gros (Malaghan Institute), Professor Peter Gibson (John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, Australia), Dr Ian St George, Dr Wallace Farquhar (John St Doctors), Dr Angela Zacharasiewicz (University of Vienna), Professor Chris Cunningham (Te Pūmanawa Hauora)

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Child Health

9. Health outcomes of former New Zealand timber workers exposed to pentachlorophenol (PCP)



**AIMS:**

1. To ascertain whether timber workers exposed to PCP are dying more often than other workers of comparable sex and age.
2. To ascertain whether timber workers exposed to PCP are getting cancer more often than other workers of comparable sex and age
3. To ascertain whether timber workers exposed to PCP are experiencing more hospital admissions than other workers of comparable sex and age.

**FUNDING:**

Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC), Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)

**RESEARCHERS:**

Neil Pearce, Dave Mclean, Andrea 't Mannetje, Chris Walls, Evan Dryson, Lis Ellison-Loschmann

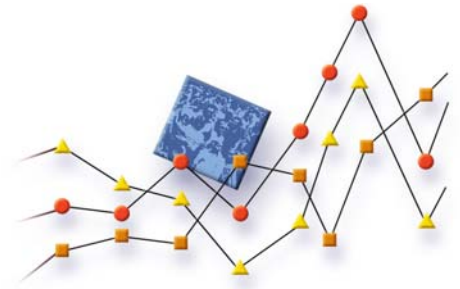
**COLLABORATORS:**

Dr Phil Shoemack (Bay of Plenty District Health Board), Dr Barry Borman (Public Health Intelligence, Ministry of Health)

**KEY WORDS:**

Cancer, Occupation, Chronic Disease, Timber Workers

## 10. Determinants of survival from cancer



### **AIMS:**

1. To ascertain whether cancer survival in New Zealand is comparable to other developed countries.
2. To ascertain whether cancer survival has improved over the past three decades.
3. To ascertain whether there are differences in cancer survival in New Zealand according to gender, socio-economic status or ethnicity.
4. To ascertain whether any ethnic or socioeconomic differences in survival are explained by differences in age at presentation.

**FUNDING:** Lotteries Health Research

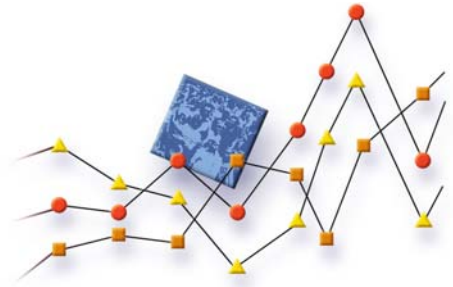
**RESEARCHERS:** Mona Jeffreys, Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Sunia Foliaki, Neil Pearce

**COLLABORATORS:** Craig Wright, Dr Barry Borman (Public Health Intelligence, Ministry of Health), Dr Tony Blakely (Wellington School of Medicine)

**KEY WORDS:** Cancer, Survival



## 11. Cause-specific mortality in a cohort of diabetes patients



### **AIMS:**

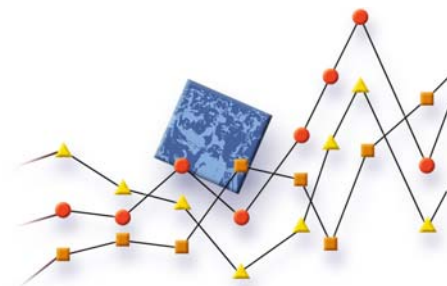
1. To investigate mortality rates among people with Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus.
2. In investigate whether total mortality and cause-specific mortality differ with birth cohort, socioeconomic status or with ethnic group.

**RESEARCHERS:** Mona Jeffreys, Andrea 't Mannetje, Neil Pearce

**COLLABORATORS:** Craig Wright, Dr Barry Borman (Public Health Intelligence, Ministry of Health)

**KEY WORDS:** Diabetes, Survival

## 12. Asthma and atopy in farmers' children and their parents



### **AIMS:**

1. To measure the prevalence of respiratory symptoms (with the focus on asthma) in farmers' children and their parents, and in a comparison group from a non-farming population;
2. To compare the prevalence of respiratory symptoms in children and parents in various types of farming (dairy, sheep & beef, and crop farming);
3. To measure the prevalence of atopy in a sample of children and their parents (farming and non-farming) in order to ascertain whether any protective effect of farming involves atopic mechanisms;
4. To measure relevant environmental exposures in a sample of households (farming and non-farming) including house dust allergen and endotoxin, and to examine their association with the occurrence of atopy and asthma, while adjusting for other risk factors for asthma.

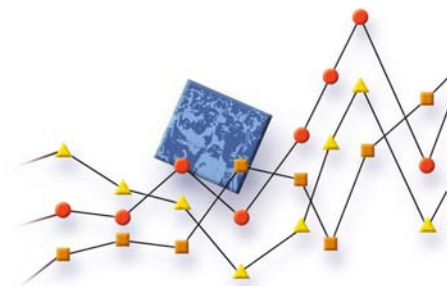
**FUNDING:** Health Research Council

**RESEARCHERS:** Jeroen Douwes, Neil Pearce, Soo Cheng, Catherine Cohet, Charlotte Adank, Elizabeth Harding

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Joanna McKenzie (Massey University Veterinary Epicentre), Professor Graham Le Gros (Malaghan Institute of Medical Research), Dr Erika Von Mutius (University Children's Hospital, Munich, Germany), Professor Chris Cunningham (Te Pūmanawa Hauora)

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Child Health, Occupation

## 13. Occupational cancer in adult New Zealanders



### **AIMS:**

1. To obtain an overview of the importance of occupational factors for these cancer types in New Zealand.
2. To quantify the proportion of cases due to known occupational causes.
3. To identify new occupational causes of these cancers.

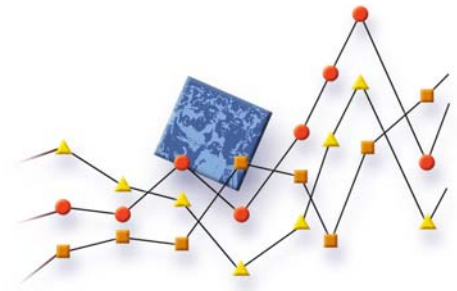
**FUNDING:** Health Research Council, Lotteries Health Research

**RESEARCHERS:** Evan Dryson, Chris Walls, Dave Mclean, Neil Pearce, Soo Cheng, Andrea 't Mannetje, Rochelle Berry

**COLLABORATORS:** Jenny West (OSH), Professor Hans Kromhout (IRAS, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands), Dr Paolo Boffetta (IARC, Lyon, France), Dr Aaron Blair (NCI, Washington DC, USA), Professor Chris Cunningham (Te Pūmanawa Hauora)

**KEY WORDS:** Occupation, Cancer

14. A participatory action research study of teenage mothers and their perceptions of successful parenting



**AIMS:**

1. To work alongside teenage mothers as they explore how they parent and what enables them to parent successfully.
2. To facilitate the documentation of their findings in a form that can be disseminated, not only to help other young mothers, but to inform public policy and professional practice

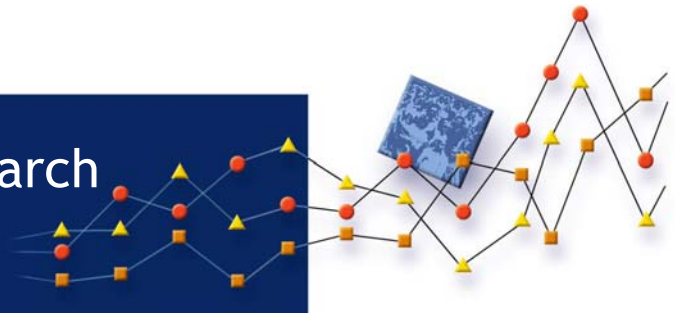
**FUNDING:** FRST Bright Futures Doctoral Fellowship

**RESEARCHERS:** Helen Wilson

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Robyn Munford, Dr Annette Huntington (Massey University)

**KEY WORDS:** Maternal and Child Health

## Projects Based in Other Research Groups and Institutions



### 1. Health effects of mobile (cellular) phones

**AIM:**

1. To investigate whether mobile phone use causes brain cancer
2. To investigate occupational causes of brain cancer

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Alistair Woodward, Dr Angus Cook (Wellington School of Medicine), Dr Elizabeth Cardis International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Dave McLean, Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Cancer, Environmental Health

### 2. The New Zealand Census Mortality Study

**AIM:**

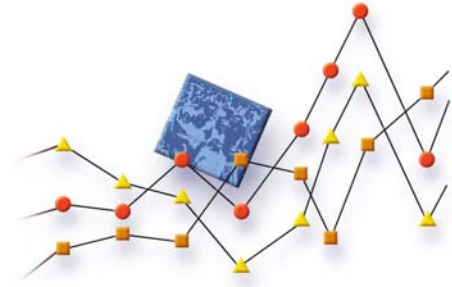
1. To investigate measure socio-economic differences in mortality in New Zealand

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Tony Blakely, Dr Clare Salmond, Professor Alistair Woodward, June Atkinson, Jackie Fawcett (Wellington School of Medicine), Professor Peter Davis (Christchurch School of Medicine)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Cindy Kiro, Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Social Class, Mortality

### 3. Occupational cancer in developing countries



**AIM:**

1. To update and extend a previously published report on occupational cancer in developing countries

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Paolo Boffetta (International Agency for Research on Cancer), Dr Manolis Kogevinas (IMIM, Barcelona, Spain)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Cancer, Occupation, Social Class, Mortality

### 4. Estimating the long-term health outcomes of people with epilepsy

**AIMS:**

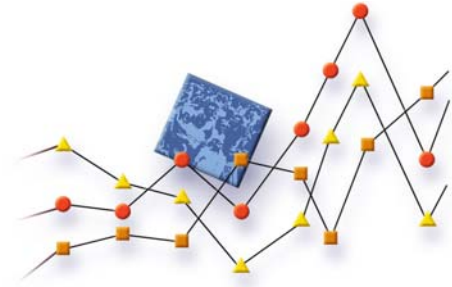
1. To establish an epilepsy register in Tasmania
2. To undertake a cross-sectional study of this community sample of people with epilepsy to investigate the prevalence of epilepsy syndromes, and their severity, epilepsy-related injuries and health service utilization
3. To establish a community cohort of people with epilepsy which can be followed prospectively to monitor health outcomes, measure risk factors contributing to these outcomes if indicated (with second stage case-control studies), and perform intervention trials if considered appropriate

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Wendy D'Souza, Dr Mark Cook, Dr Terry O'Brien (St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne), Dr Bruce Taylor (Hobart Hospital, Tasmania), Professor Terry Dwyer (Menzies Centre, Hobart, Tasmania)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Epilepsy

## 5. Te Hauora o nga Tamariki o Whaingaroa



### **AIMS:**

1. To gather baseline information on the health status of Māori children and young people within the Whangaroa County area
2. To understand what hauora means for Māori within this area and how this applies to Māori children and young people in this area.
3. To develop the research capacity of this community to undertake health research in the future

**COLLABORATORS:** Patricia Tauroa, Roger Barton (Te Runanga o Whaingaroa), Associate Professor Ian Hassall (Massey University Albany)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Cindy Kiro, Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Michelle Gray, Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Māori Health, Tamariki, Rangatahi

## 6. Te Pūmanawa Hauora (HRC Programme Grant)

### **AIMS:**

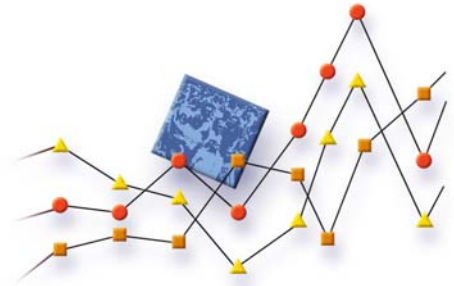
1. Programme of research in Māori health, including studies of child health, mental health and the health of older Māori (Te Pūmanawa Hauora HRC Programme Grant)

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Mason Durie, Professor Chris Cunningham, Dr Maureen Holdaway, Dr Stephanie Palmer, Dr Te Kani Kingi, John Waldon, Amohia Boulton, Sharon Taite (Te Pūmanawa Hauora)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Māori Health

## 7. Prevention and Incidence of Asthma and Mite Allergy (PIAMA)



### **AIMS:**

1. To evaluate the effectiveness of house dust mite impermeable mattress covers in the prevention of asthma and respiratory allergy in children at high risk to develop asthma or respiratory allergy.
2. To assess the role of early microbial exposure on the development of asthma and respiratory allergy in children at high risk to develop asthma or respiratory allergy.
3. To investigate the natural history of childhood asthma in high and low risk children in relation to environmental and lifestyle factors.

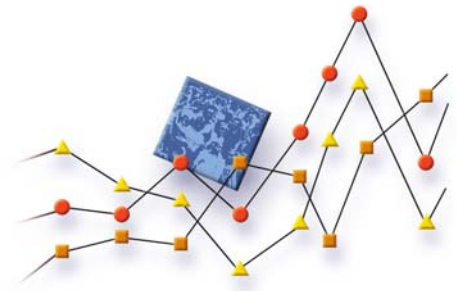
**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Bert Brunekreef (Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht University, The Netherlands); Dr Rob van Strien (Utrecht University); Gert Doekes (Utrecht University), Dr Jet Smit (National Institute of Public Health and Environment, Bilthoven), Marjan Kerkhof (Beatrix Children's Hospital, Groningen University), Dr Jorrit Gerritsen (Beatrix Children's Hospital, Groningen University), Dr Rob Aalberse (Central Laboratory of the Blood Transfusion Service, Department of Allergy, Amsterdam), Dr Herman Neijens (Sophia Children's Hospital, Erasmus University, Department of Pediatrics, Rotterdam), Dr Johan de Jongste (Sophia Children's Hospital, Erasmus University, Department of Pediatrics, Rotterdam)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Jeroen Douwes

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Child Health



## 8. Protection against Allergy: Study in Rural Environments (PASTURE)



### **AIMS:**

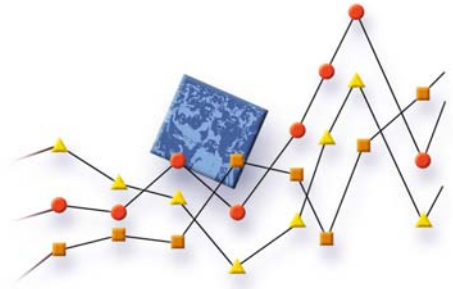
1. To assess whether T-cell effector status is more characteristic of Th1 immunity in farmers' infants at 12 months of age compared to non-farming control infants
2. To assess whether mothers' exposures during pregnancy to indoor endotoxin, unpasteurised milk, and barn environment are associated with Th1 immunity in their offspring
3. To assess whether elevated levels of endotoxin in house dust and milk samples are associated with a maturation of initially Th2-like skewed immune responses to Th1 immunity, and a lack of IgE response to common allergens at age 12 months
4. To assess whether the expression of genes related to the recognition of microbial products differs with respect to microbial exposures and a subject's genetic background (polymorphisms in these genes)
5. To assess whether subjects with polymorphisms in those genes differ with respect to the relation between environmental exposures and atopic outcomes

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Erika von Mutius (Dr. Von Haunersche Kinderklinik, München, Germany), Dr Charlotte Braun-Fahländer (Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Basel, Switzerland), Dr Juha Pekkanen (National Public Health Institute, Kuopio, Finland), Dr Josef Riedler (Childrens Hospital, Salzburg, Austria), Dr Jean-Charles Dalphin (UFR Faculté de Médecine & Pharmacie, Besancon, France), Professor Harald Renz (Marburg, Germany), Professor Bert Brunekreef (Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht, The Netherlands), Dr Michael Kabesch (Munich, Germany), Dr Roger Lauener (Zürich, Switzerland), Professor Stephan Weiland (University of Ulm, Germany)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Jeroen Douwes

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Allergy, Anthrosophy, Farming, Respiratory Disease, Child Health

## 9. Prevention of allergy – risk factors for sensitisation in children related to farming and anthroposophic lifestyle (PARSIFAL)



### **AIMS:**

1. To assess which specific factors related to farming and anthroposophy offer protection against asthma and allergies
2. To assess whether microbial exposures in the indoor and stable environment are associated with a reduced risk of asthma and allergies in farmers' and anthroposophic children

**COLLABORATORS:** Prof Göran Pershagen (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden), Dr Charlotte Braun-Fahrländer (Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Basel, Switzerland), Professor Bert Brunekreef (Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht University, The Netherlands), Dr Erika von Mutius (Dr von Haunersche Kinderklinik, München, Germany), Dr Josef Riedler (Childrens Hospital, Dept. of Paediatric Pulmonology, Salzburg, Austria)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Jeroen Douwes

**KEY WORDS:** Asthma, Respiratory Disease, Child Health, Occupation

## 10. The Glasgow Alumni Project

### **AIM:**

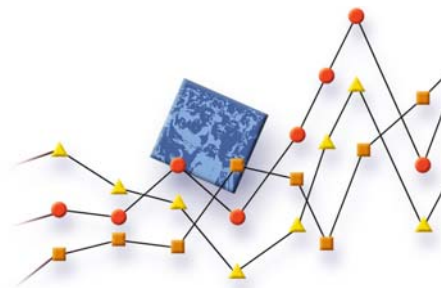
1. To determine the influence of life-course exposure patterns on disease occurrence in later life

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor George Davey Smith, Professor David Gunnell, Dr Sanjay Kinra, Dr Bruna Galobardes (University of Bristol, UK)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Mona Jeffreys

**KEY WORDS:** Life-course Epidemiology, Cancer Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes

## 11. The Glasgow Alumni Project Mammography Study



### **AIMS:**

1. To describe a novel technique of modeling volumetric breast density
2. To determine the influence of life-course patterns on volumetric breast density

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor George Davey Smith, Professor David Gunnell (University of Bristol, UK), Dr Peter McCarron (Queen's University, Belfast, UK)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Mona Jeffreys

**KEY WORDS:** Life-course Epidemiology, Breast Cancer, Breast Density

## 12. Cardiovascular disease and oral health: The Glasgow Alumni Study

### **AIMS:**

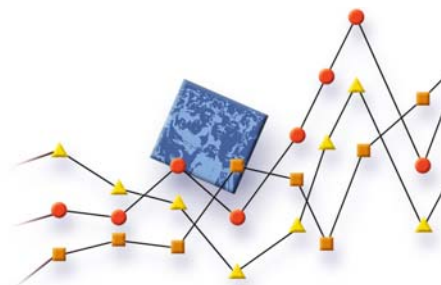
1. To investigate the relationship between cardiovascular disease and oral health, accounting for socioeconomic background
2. To investigate the relationship between parental socioeconomic background and early adult oral health status

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Mark Gilthorpe, Dr Yu-Kang Tu (University of Leeds), Professor George Davey Smith, Professor David Gunnell Dr Sanjay Kinra, Dr Bruna Galobardes (University of Bristol, UK), Dr Peter McCarron (Queen's University, Belfast, UK)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Mona Jeffreys

**KEY WORDS:** Foetal Origins of Adult Disease; Life-course Epidemiology, Cardiovascular Disease, Oral Health

### 13. IARC multicentre case-control study of occupation, environment and lung cancer in Central and Eastern Europe



#### **AIMS:**

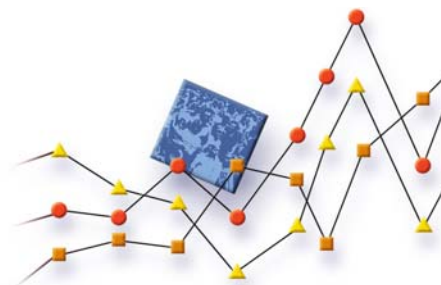
1. Investigate the role of occupational risk factors in the aetiology of lung cancer in Central and Eastern Europe
2. Investigate other factors including tobacco consumption, air pollution and genetic susceptibility
3. Conduct this analysis after combining the datasets of individual centers

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Paolo Boffetta (International Agency for Research on Cancer), Dr Tony Fletcher (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), Dr Joelle Fevotte (Institut Universitaire de Médecine du Travail, UCB, France), Dr Dana Mates (Institute of Hygiene, Public Health, Health Services and Management, Bucharest, Romania), Dr Peter Rudnai (National Institute of Environmental Health, Budapest, Hungary), Dr David Zaridze (Institute of Carcinogenesis, Cancer Research Centre, Moscow, Russia), Dr Eleonóra Fabiánová (Specialized State Health Institute, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia), Dr Witold Zatonski (Maria Skłodowska Institute of Oncology, Warsaw, Poland), Dr Neonila Szeszenia-Dabrowska (Department of Epidemiology, Lodz, Poland), Dr Vladimir Janout (Department of Preventive Medicine, Palacky University of Medicine, Olomouc, Czech Republic), Dr Vladimir Bencko (Charles University of Prague, First Faculty of Medicine, Praha, Czech Republic), Dr Lenka Foretova (Department of Cancer Epidemiology, Masaryk Cancer Institute, Brno, Czech Republic), Dr Judith Youngson (Roy Castle International Centre for Lung Cancer Research, Liverpool, UK)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Andrea 't Mannetje

**KEY WORDS:** Lung cancer, Occupation, Tobacco

## 14. International study of environment, viruses and cancer of the oral cavity and the larynx



### **AIMS:**

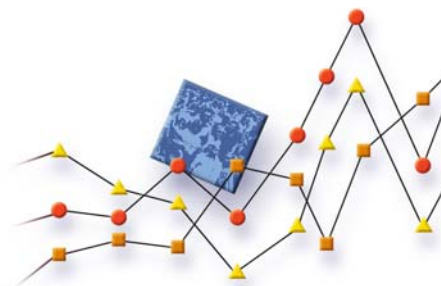
1. To assess the role of known (i.e., occupation, smoking, alcohol drinking, fruit and vegetable intake) or putative (i.e., HPV infection) risk factors for cancer of the oral cavity and the larynx in the study populations
2. To investigate the presence and pattern of P53 mutations and to assess whether they differ according exposure to risk factors
3. To assess the role of genetic susceptibility mediated through genetic polymorphisms of enzymes potentially implicated in the metabolism of carcinogens

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Paul Brennan, Dr Paolo Boffetta (International Agency for Research on Cancer), Dr Maria Paula Curado (Registro de Câncer de Goiânia, Associação de Combate ao Câncer em Goiás, Brazil), Dr Alexander Daudt (Cancer Prevention and Control Section, Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Brazil), Dr Sergio Koifman (Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Brazil), Dr Ana Menezes (Departamento de Clínica Médica, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade Federal de Pelotas, Brazil), Dr Victor Wünsch-Filho (Departamento de Epidemiologia, Faculdade de Saúde Pública, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil), Dr Elena Matos (Depto. de Carcinogenesis Química y Ambiental, Instituto de Oncología Angel H. Roffo, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina), Dr Leticia Fernandez (Institute of Oncology and Radiobiology, Havana, Cuba), Dr Jan Walboomers, Dr Peter Snijders (Department of Pathology, Free University Hospital, Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Dr Joelle Fevotte (Institut Universitaire de Médecine du Travail, UCB, Lyon, France)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Andrea 't Mannetje

**KEY WORDS:** Oral Cancer, Laryngeal cancer, Lifestyle Factors, Occupation

## 15. Environmental exposures and lymphoid neoplasms



### **AIMS:**

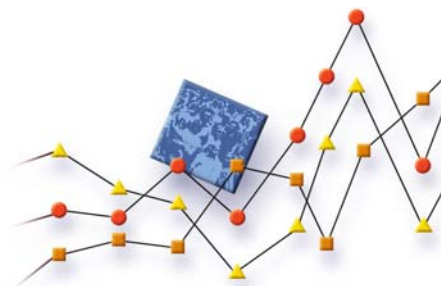
1. To identify the contribution of Epstein-Barr virus, Human Immunodeficiency virus, Hepatitis C virus and Herpes virus 8 to the occurrence of lymphoid neoplasms
2. To explore the potential associations of other infectious agents (Chlamydia, other related herpes virus, papovavirae virus) to the occurrence of lymphoid neoplasms
3. To identify the contribution of specific occupational exposures (inorganic pesticides, organic pesticides, animal viruses, organic dust, organic solvents and radiation) to the occurrence of lymphoid neoplasms
4. To explore the possible interactions between occupational/environmental factors and infectious agents
5. To explore the possible contribution of exposure to UV radiation to the occurrence of lymphoid neoplasms.

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Paul Brennan, Dr Paolo Boffetta (IARC), Dr Silvia de Sanjosé (Oncology Institute, Barcelona, Spain), Dr Marc Maynadie (Hôpital du Bocage, Dijon, France), Dr Nikolaus Becker (German Cancer Research Centre, Heidelberg, Germany), Dr Anthony Staines (Department of Public Health, University College, Dublin, Ireland), Dr Jose Iscovich (International Fertility Institute, Raanana, Israel), Dr Lenka Foretova (Department of Cancer Epidemiology, Masaryk Cancer Institute, Brno, Czech Republic), Dr Martine Vornanen (Department of Clinical Pathology, Kuopio University Hospital, Kuopio, Finland), Dr Pier Luigi Cocco (Institute of Occupational Health, Cagliari, Italy)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Andrea 't Mannetje

**KEY WORDS:** Lymphoid Neoplasms, Environmental Exposures, Infectious Agents, Occupational Exposures

## 16. Social capital: How does social connectedness work to benefit all?



### **AIMS:**

1. To inquire into people's understandings of their connections with others as positive assets.
2. To compare the shared meanings of social connectedness for people across groups of different levels of socioeconomic status.
3. To explore the meaning of social connectedness at different levels of connection, from individual to neighbourhood, to broader groups in society.
4. To inquire into the meaning of place as an aspect of social capital in relation to economic, cultural and symbolic capital.

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Christine Stephens (School of Psychology, Massey University)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Social Connectedness, Social Capital

## 17. Work-related determinants of health, safety and well-being of New Zealanders

### **AIMS:**

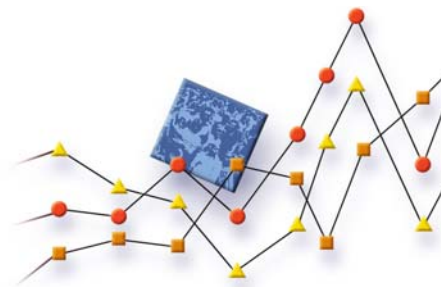
1. To develop methods and assess the feasibility of characterising work-related hazards in New Zealand, their associated health effects and the impact these hazards may have on different worker socio-economic groups

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr Hilda Firth, Dr Dorothy Broom, Peter Herbison, Rebecca Lilley (Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago), Dr Peter Crampton (Wellington School of Medicine, University of Otago), Professor Chris Cunningham (Te Pūmanawa Hauora)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Occupational Health

## 18. Social variation in New Zealand health expectancy trends



### **AIM:**

1. To investigate changes in social class differences in health expectancy over time

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Peter Davis, Dr Patrick Graham (Christchurch School of Medicine, University of Otago), Andrew Sporle (University of Auckland), Dr Tony Blakely (Wellington School of Medicine, University of Otago)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce

**KEY WORDS:** Social Class, Health Expectancy

## 19. Upper gastrointestinal cancer in Māori

### **AIM:**

1. To identify potential points of intervention to reduce both population and individual risk of gastrointestinal cancer in Māori

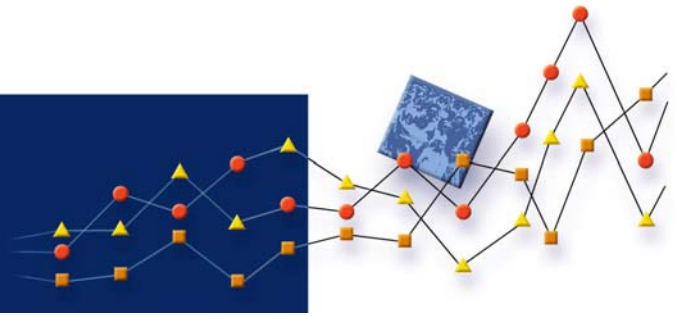
**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Iain Martin, Associate Professor Jonathan Koea, Dr Vanessa Blair, Andrew Sporle, Professor Lynn Fergusson (University of Auckland)

**CPHR RESEARCHERS:** Neil Pearce, Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Mona Jeffreys

**KEY WORDS:** Māori Health, Cancer



# Training Doctoral



Dave McLean

HRC Public Health Research Training Fellow

**Title: Mortality and Cancer Incidence in Meat Workers.**

*Supervisors: Neil Pearce, and Professor Alistair Woodward  
(Wellington School of Medicine)*

Submitted and awarded 2003.

Ate Moala

HRC Pacific Health Research Training Fellow

**Title: Health Promotion in Pacific People**

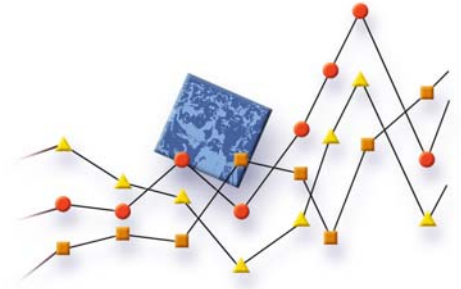
*Supervisors: Neil Pearce and Dr Sitaleki Finau (Fiji School  
of Medicine)*

Helen Wilson

FRST Bright Futures Doctoral Fellow

**Title: Teenage Mothers' Perceptions Of Successful Parenting:  
A Participatory Action Study.**

*Supervisors: Professor Robyn Munford (Massey University Turitea  
Campus), Associate Professor Annette Huntington (Massey  
Wellington) and Neil Pearce*



Lis Ellison-Loschmann

HRC Māori Health Research Training Fellow

**Title: Asthma in Māori**

*Supervisor: Neil Pearce*

Sunia Foliaki

Wellcome Trust Research Fellow

**Title: Epidemiology of asthma in Pacific children**

*Supervisors: Neil Pearce and Jeroen Douwes*

Wendyl D'Souza

**Title: Is There a Common Susceptibility Gene for Epilepsy?**

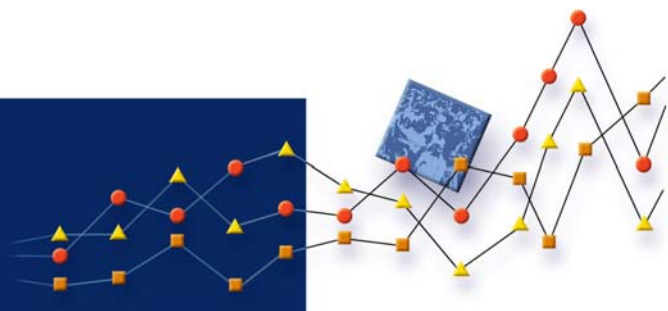
*Supervisors: Neil Pearce and Professor Simon Eastaugh (ANU, Canberra)*

Angus Cook

**Title: Brain Cancer In Cell Phone Users**

*Supervisors: Professor Alistair Woodward (Wellington School of Medicine) and Neil Pearce*

# Training Postdoctoral



Andrea 't Mannetje

HRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow (CPHR Programme Grant)

**Title: Occupational epidemiology**

*Supervisor: Neil Pearce*

Catherine Cohet

Massey University Postdoctoral Research Fellow

**Title: Non-allergic mechanisms of asthma**

*Supervisors: Neil Pearce, Graham Le Gros (Malaghan Institute of Medical Research)*

Christine van Dalen

Massey University Postdoctoral Research Fellow

**Title: Clinical and epidemiological studies of childhood asthma**

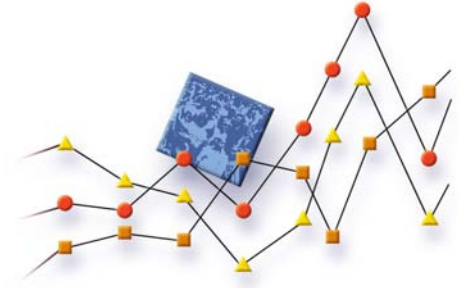
*Supervisors: Neil Pearce, Jeroen Douwes*

Dave McLean

HRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow (CPHR Programme Grant)

**Title: Occupational epidemiology**

*Supervisor: Neil Pearce*



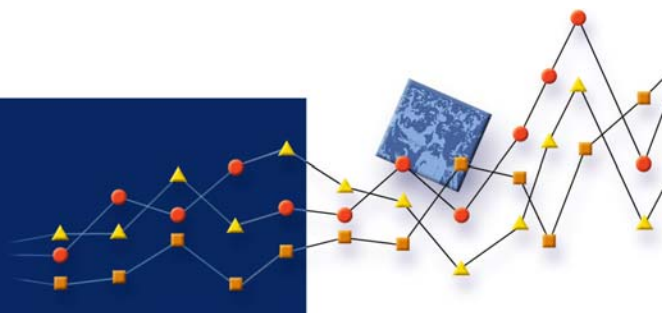
Mona Jeffreys

Massey University Postdoctoral Research Fellow

**Title: Cancer epidemiology**

*Supervisor: Neil Pearce*

# Presentations



*Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, Wellington, February 2003*

**Douwes J.** Does bacterial endotoxin prevent asthma? Results of the PIAMA birth cohort study

*Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, Wellington, April 2003*

**Pearce N, McLean D.** Cancer in agricultural workers

*Australian Association of Neurologists Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, Australia, May 2003*

Mulcahy N, **D'Souza W**, O'Brien T, Dwyer T, Taylor B, Ficker D, **Pearce N**, Cook M. Establishing a community-based epilepsy register in Tasmania

*Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, Wellington, June 2003*

**Cohet C.** Polymorphisms in the AGT gene and lung cancer risk in non-smokers exposed to second-hand smoke

*Annual Conference of the Public Health Association of New Zealand, Turangawaewae*

*Marae, Ngaruawahia, July 2003*

**Kiro C**, Barton R, Johannsen H, Tauroa P, Hassall I, Steele J. Te hauora o nga tamariki o Whaingaroa: a community case study

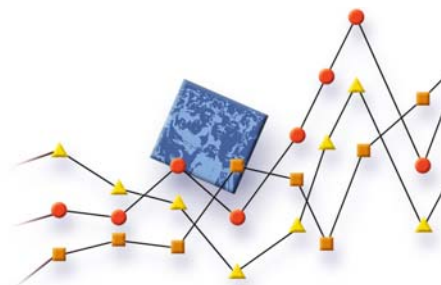
**Kiro C**, Langford B, Ratima K. Waiora: the effect of environmental factors on the health of New Zealanders

*XIII Annual Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association, Perth, Australia, September 2003*

**Berry R, McLean D, Pearce N, Dryson E, Walls C.** Registry-based case-control study of occupational cancer in adult New Zealanders. *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 58 (abstract).

**Cohet C, Cheng S, Macdonald C**, Baker M, **Douwes J, Pearce N.** Infections, medication use and asthma in childhood. *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 55-56 (abstract).

**Ellison-Loschmann L**, King R, **Pearce N.** Regional variations in asthma hospitalisations among Maori and non-Maori. *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 55 (abstract).



**Foliaki F**, Kildegaard Nielsen S, Bjorksten B, von Mutius E, **Cheng S**, **Pearce N**, and the ISAAC Phase I Study Group. Antibiotic sales and the prevalence of symptoms of asthma, rhinitis and eczema: The International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC). *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 56 (abstract).

**Harding E**, **Douwes J**, Gibson P, Simpson J, **van Dalen C**, **Parkin J**, Le Gros G, **Cohet C**, **Pearce N**. How feasible is sputum induction for assessing airway inflammation in children? *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 55 (abstract).

**Jeffreys M**, Warren R, Gunnell D, McCarron P, Davey Smith G. Body mass index in young adulthood and breast cancer risk. *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 17(abstract).

**McLean D**, **Cheng S**, **Pearce N**. Mortality and cancer incidence in meat workers. *Australasian Epidemiologist* 2003; 10: 27(abstract).

*15th Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Perth, Australia, September 2003*

**Douwes J**, van Strien R, Doekes G, Smit J, Kerkhof M, Gerritsen J, Aalberse R, Niejens H, de Jongste J, Brunekreef B. Early indoor microbial exposure lowers the risk of asthma: the PIAMA birth cohort study. *Epidemiol* 2003; 14: S46 (abstract).

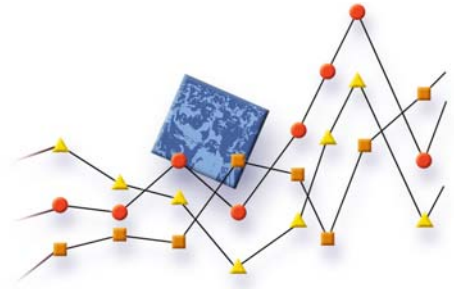
**'t Mannetje A**, Brennan P, Zaridze D, Szeszenia-Dabrowska N, Rudnai P, Lissowska J, Fabiánová E, Youngson K, Mates D, Bencko V. Occupational exposure to metal compounds and lung cancer: results from a multi-centre case-control study in Central/Eastern Europe and UK. *Epidemiol* 2003; 14: S25 (abstract).

*Airway Research Centre, John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, Australia, September 2003*

**Douwes J**. Early indoor microbial exposure lowers the risk of asthma: the PIAMA birth cohort study.

*Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, Sydney, Australia, October 2003*

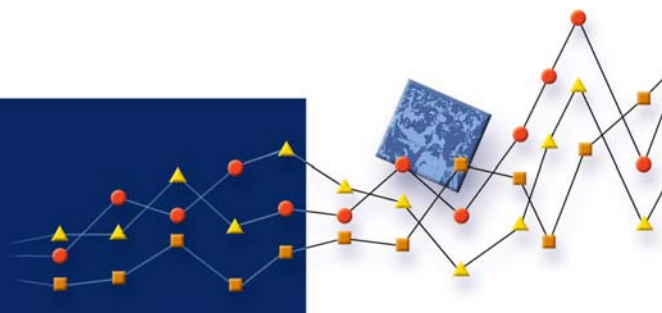
**Douwes J**. Early indoor microbial exposure lowers the risk of asthma: the PIAMA birth cohort study.



*Postgraduate Seminar, Kenya  
Medical Research Institute,  
Nairobi, Kenya, November,  
2003*

**Pearce N.** Lessons from  
ISAAC

# Publications



## Journals

Ajwani S, Blakely T, Robson B, Atkinson J, **Kiro C**. Unlocking the numerator-denominator bias III: adjustment ratios by ethnicity for 1981-1999 mortality data. The New Zealand Census-Mortality Study. NZ Med J 2003; 116(1175): 1-12.

Blakely T, Atkinson J, **Kiro C**, Blaiklock A, D'Souza A. Child mortality, socioeconomic position, and one-parent families: independent associations and variation by age and cause of death. Int J Epidemiol 2003; 32: 410-8.

Burr ML, Emberlin JC, Treu R, Cheng S, **Pearce N**, and the ISAAC Phase One Study Group. Pollen counts in relation to the prevalence of allergic rhinoconjunctivitis, asthma and atopic eczema in the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC). Clin Exper Allergy 2003; 33: 1675-80.

Cook A, Woodward A, **Pearce N**, Marshall C. Cellular telephone use and time trends for brain, head and neck tumours. NZ Med J 2003; 116(1175): 1-8.

**Douwes J, Pearce N**. Is indoor mold exposure a risk factor for asthma? Am J Epidemiol 2003; 158: 203-6.

**Douwes J**, Thorne PS, Heederik D. Monitoring and evaluation of bioaerosol exposure. Arbowetenschap 2003; 1: 39-42.

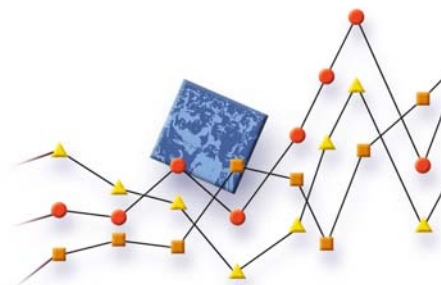
**Douwes J**, Thorne P, **Pearce N**, Heederik D. Bio aerosols: health effects and exposure assessment. Ann Occup Hyg 2003; 47: 187-200.

**Foliaki S, Pearce N**. The changing pattern of ill health for indigenous people: a public health perspective. Br Med J 2003; 327: 406-7.

**Foliaki S, Pearce N**. Prevention and control of diabetes in Pacific people. Br Med J 2003; 327: 437-9.

**Fransman W, McLean D, Douwes J**, Demers P, Leung V, **Pearce N**. Respiratory symptoms and occupational exposures in New Zealand plywood mill workers. Ann Occup Hyg 2003; 47: 287-95.





**Jeffreys M**, Warren R, Davey Smith G, Gunnell D. Breast density: agreement of measures from film and digital image. *Br J Radiol* 2003; 76: 561-3.

**Jeffreys M**, McCarron P, Gunnell D, McEwen J, Davey Smith G. Body mass index in early and mid-adulthood, and subsequent mortality: a historical cohort study. *Int J Obesity* 2002; 27: 1391-7.

**Pearce N**, Davey Smith G. Is social capital the key to inequalities in health? *AJPH* 2003; 93: 122-9.

**Pearce N, Douwes J**. Asthma and the hygiene hypothesis. Are we too clean? *New Ethicals* 2003; 2: 27-33.

**Pearce N, Douwes J**. Why is asthma morbidity high in Australia and New Zealand? *Int Rev Asthma* 2003; 5: 86-98.

**Wilson H**. Paradoxical pursuits in child health nursing practice: discourses of scientific mothercraft. *Crit Publ Health* 2003; 13: 281-93.

Zacharasiewicz A, **Douwes J, Pearce N**. What proportion of rhinitis symptoms are attributable to atopy? *J Clin Epidemiol* 2003; 56: 385-90.

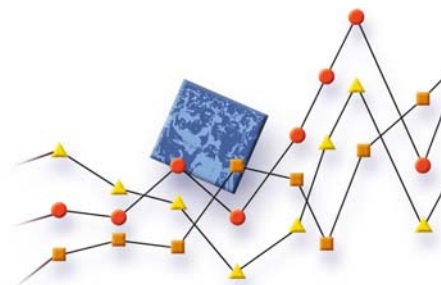
## Conference Proceedings and Book Chapters

**Douwes J**, Thorne PS, **Pearce N**, Heederik D. Biological agents - recognition. In: Perkins J (ed). *Modern industrial hygiene. Vol 2*. Cincinnati, OH: ACGIH, 2003, pp 220-92.

**Dryson E, Walls C, McLean D, Pearce N**. The OSH Occupational Cancer Project. In: Pearce N, McLean D, Berry R (eds). *Priorities in occupational health and safety. Proceedings of the Second Annual CPHR Symposium in Health Research and Policy*. Wellington: CPHR, 2003, pp 119-24.

**Glass B**. Implications for policy. In: Pearce N, McLean D, Berry R (eds). *Priorities in occupational health and safety. Proceedings of the Second Annual CPHR Symposium in Health Research and Policy*. Wellington: CPHR, 2003, pp 105-7.

Heederik D, Thorne PS, **Douwes J**. Biological agents - monitoring and evaluation of bioaerosol exposure. In: Perkins J (ed). *Modern industrial hygiene. Vol 2*. Cincinnati, OH: ACGIH, 2003, pp 293-327.



**McLean D.** Priorities for future research and policy. In: Pearce N, McLean D, Berry R (eds). Priorities in occupational health and safety. Proceedings of the Second Annual CPHR Symposium in Health Research and Policy. Wellington: CPHR, 2003, pp 135-6.

**McLean D, Boffetta P, Berry R, Pearce N.** Occupational cancer. In: Pearce N, McLean D, Berry R (eds). Priorities in occupational health and safety. Proceedings of the Second Annual CPHR Symposium in Health Research and Policy. Wellington: CPHR, 2003, pp 33-49.

### **Books and Reports**

**Glass WJ, McLean D, Armstrong R, Pearce N, Thomas L, Munro G, Walrond J, McMillan A, O'Keefe R, Power P, Rayner C, Stevens M, Taylor R.** Respiratory health and silica dust levels in the extractive industry. OSH Occupational Health Report Series. No 8. Wellington: OSH, 2003

**McLean D.** Mortality and cancer incidence in New Zealand meat workers. Wellington: CPHR, 2003 [ISBN

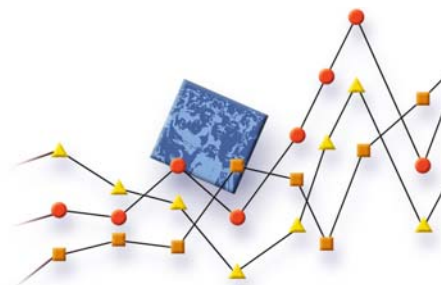
0-476-00276-1; ISSN 1176-1237].

National Ethics Advisory Committee (Moore A, Ardagh M, Bramley D, Bray A, Cram F, Cunningham P, Evans D, Kirkman A, Paul C, **Pearce N**, Sullivan M, Tuilotolava M). System of ethical review of health and disability research in New Zealand: discussion document. Wellington: National Ethics Advisory Committee, 2003.

National Ethics Advisory Committee (Moore A, Ardagh M, Bramley D, Bray A, Cram F, Cunningham P, Evans D, Kirkman A, Paul C, **Pearce N**, Sullivan M, Tuilotolava M). Ethical review of observational research, audit and related activities: discussion document. Wellington: National Ethics Advisory Committee, 2003.

National Health Committee (Logan R, Fougere G, Hague K, Holloway L, **Kiro C**, Moore A, Percival T, Page-Carruth A, **Pearce N**, Sullivan L, Stewart L, Tepania-Palmer G). Screening to improve health in New Zealand. Wellington: National Health Committee, 2003.

National Health Committee (Logan R, Fougere G, Hague



K, Holloway L, **Kiro C**, Moore A, Percival T, Page-Carruth A, **Pearce N**, Sullivan L, Stewart L, Talemaitoga A, Tepania-Palmer G). To have an 'ordinary' life: community membership for adults with an intellectual disability. Wellington: National Health Committee, 2003.

National Health Committee (Logan R, Fougere G, Hague K, Holloway L, **Kiro C**, Moore A, Percival T, Page-Carruth A, **Pearce N**, Sullivan L, Stewart L, Talemaitoga A, Tepania-Palmer G). Molecular genetic testing in New Zealand. Wellington: National Health Committee, 2003.

**Pearce N**. A short introduction to epidemiology. Wellington: Centre for Public Health Research, 2003 [ISBN 0-473-09560-2; ISSN 1176-1237].

**Pearce N, McLean D, Berry R** (eds). Priorities in occupational health and safety. Proceedings

of the Second Annual CPHR Symposium in Health Research and Policy. Wellington: CPHR, 2003 [ISBN 0-473-09642-0; ISSN 1176-1237].

Public Health Advisory Committee (Hague K, **Kiro C**, Stewart L, Logan R, Fougere G, **Pearce N**). Improving child oral health and reducing child oral health inequalities. Wellington: Public Health Advisory Committee, 2003

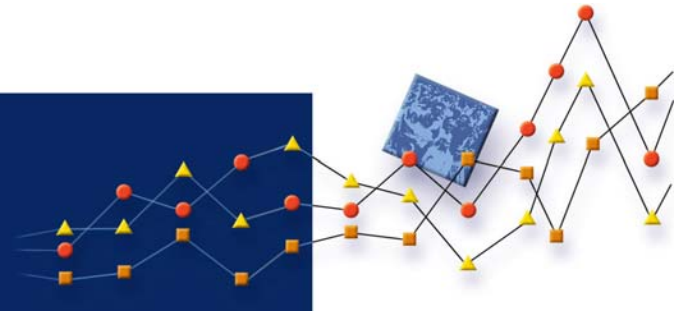
### Other Publications

**Ellison-Loschmann L**. Irihapeti Ramsden (obituary). Br Med J 2003; 327: 453.

**Pearce N**. Why we need a Ministry of Public Health. PHA News 2003; 6.1: 1-2.

**Pearce N**. Which community? PHA News 2003; 6.5: 3-4.

# Seminars



*18 March* - Leigh Signal, Philippa Gander (Sleep/Wake Research Centre). Is your pilot awake? Auckland to London non-stop

*25 March* - Neil Pearce (CPHR). Don't kill the cat! Why asthma is more complicated than you think

*8 April* - Nat Marshall (Sleep/Wake Research Centre). Sleep and the reaper: connections between abnormal sleep and death

*2 July* – Dr Evan Dryson (CPHR and OSH). The OSH Occupational Cancer Project

*8 July* – Dr Ian Laird (Centre for Ergonomics, Occupational Safety and Health, Massey University). Occupational health research at Massey University

*15 July* - Mona Jeffreys (CPHR). Life-course epidemiology and breast cancer

*22 July* - Dave McLean (CPHR). Cancer in meatworkers

*19 August*- Andrea 't Mannetje (CPHR). Exposure to metal compounds and lung cancer: Results from an IARC case-

control study in Central and Eastern Europe.

*26 August*- Sarah-Jane Paine (Sleep/Wake Research Centre). Insomnia: a problem of poverty? An epidemiological study of insomnia in New Zealand

*16 September* – Professor Allan Smith (School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley). Lung cancer and chronic respiratory disease from drinking arsenic in water

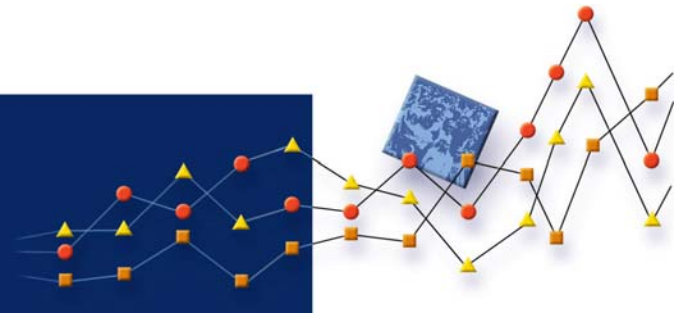
*30 September* – Dr Christine Stephens (School of Psychology, Massey University). Social capital: does social connectedness work to benefit all?

*7 October* – Dr Elana Curtis (National Screening Unit). The epidemiology of breast cancer in Maori women: implications for screening

*14 October* – Professor Chin Moi Chow (Delta Sleep Research Unit, University of Sydney). Exercise and sleep in poor sleepers

*11 November* – Dr Tony Blakely (Wellington School of Medicine). Decades of disparity: ethnic mortality trends in New Zealand 1980-1999.

# Advisory Committees



Advisory Board for Healthwise Alumina Workforce Studies. Monash University, Melbourne, Australia (Neil Pearce)

Advisory Board for New Zealand Guidelines Group (Ate Moala, Director)

Advisory Committee for Tasmanian Epilepsy Register (Neil Pearce)

Cancer Registration Advisory Committee. New Zealand Health Information Service, Ministry of Health (Neil Pearce)

Committee on Guidance for Biological Agents in the Indoor Environment. World Health Organisation (WHO) (Jeroen Douwes).

Consultant Epidemiologist to the New Zealand Cancer Registry (Neil Pearce)

Education and Advocacy Committee. Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand (Lis Ellison-Loschmann)

International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC) Executive (Neil Pearce)

International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC) Steering Committee (Neil Pearce, Sunia Foliaki)

Māori Asthma Committee. Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand (Lis Ellison-Loschmann)

Massey University Human Ethics Committee: Wellington (Lis Ellison-Loschmann)

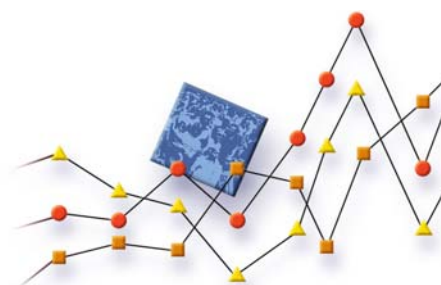
Ministerial Advisory Panel on Work-related Gradual Process, Disease, or Infection. Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) (Neil Pearce)

National Advisory Committee on Health and Disability (National Health Committee). Ministry of Health (Neil Pearce).

National Ethics Advisory Committee. Ministry of Health (Neil Pearce)

National Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee (NPHSAC). Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) (Neil Pearce, Chair)

NHI Upgrade Programme Steering Group. Ministry of Health (Neil Pearce).



Organochlorines Technical Advisory Group. Ministry of Health (Andrea 't Mannetje, Dave McLean)

OSH Cancer Panel. Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) (Andrea 't Mannetje, Dave McLean, Neil Pearce)

Pacific Advisory Drafting Group. Massey University (Sunia Foliaki)

Pacific Health Research Committee. Health Research Council (Ate Moala, Neil Pearce).

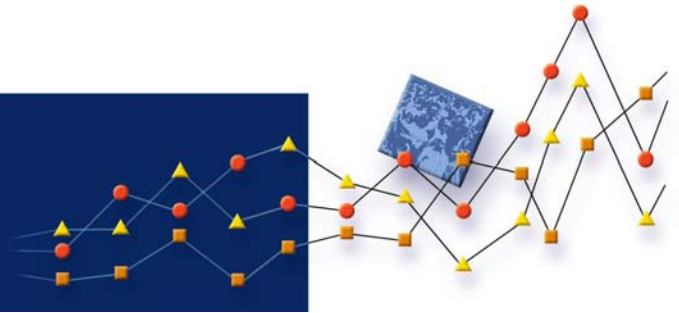
Pasifika Medical Association of New Zealand (Ate Moala, Vice-President)

Research Policy Advisory Committee. Health Research Council (Neil Pearce).

US National Academy of Sciences Working Group on Damp Indoor Spaces and Health (Jeroen Douwes).

Worksafe Advisory Group, Occupational Safety and Health. Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) (Neil Pearce)

## International visitors



**Professor Michael Bates**

School of Public Health  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California, USA

**Dr Trudi Kemp**

St George's Hospital Medical  
School  
London, United Kingdom

**Dr Kate Hunt**

MRC Social and Public Health  
Sciences Unit  
University of Glasgow  
Scotland

**Professor Allan Smith**

School of Public Health  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California, USA

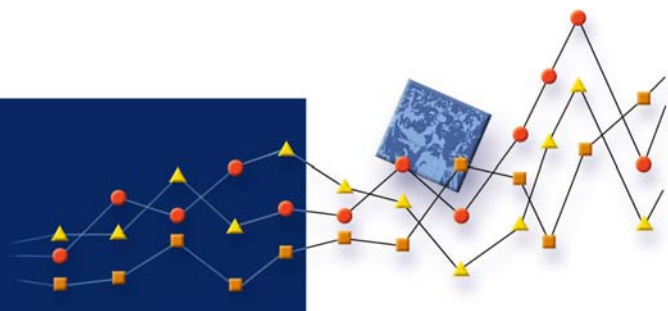
**Tom Jeavons**

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Monash Medical School  
Melbourne, Australia

**Dr Karin Yeatts**

School of Public Health  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC, USA

# Acknowledgements



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- Health Research Council of New Zealand
- Lotteries Health Research
- Cancer Society of New Zealand
- OSH (Occupational Safety and Health)
- Ministry of Health
- Wellcome Trust

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