

# Epilepsy - Through the Lifespan

Friday 20 November 2015

9:00am – 5:20pm

(Registration from 8:30am)

Venue: Edwin Tooth Auditorium  
RBWH Education Centre, Herston

International Keynote Speaker



**Professor Helen Cross**

The Prince of Wales's Chair of Childhood Epilepsy and Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Neurology at UCL Institute of Child Health, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

## Sixth Annual Queensland Epilepsy Symposium



# Thinking outside the box!

Join us for some stimulating dialogue...



11 Category 2 points pending

Improving outcomes in early onset epilepsy

Developing independent health management skills in teens with epilepsy

The challenges for teenagers with epilepsy

Medicinal cannabis - miracle or fairy tale

- Early phase clinical trials for a novel anti-epileptic

Cognition and memory through the lifespan

Epilepsy and women's health / pregnancy and lactation

Advances in imaging and the implications for clinical practice

The relationship between depression, anxiety and epilepsy

Epilepsy in older patients



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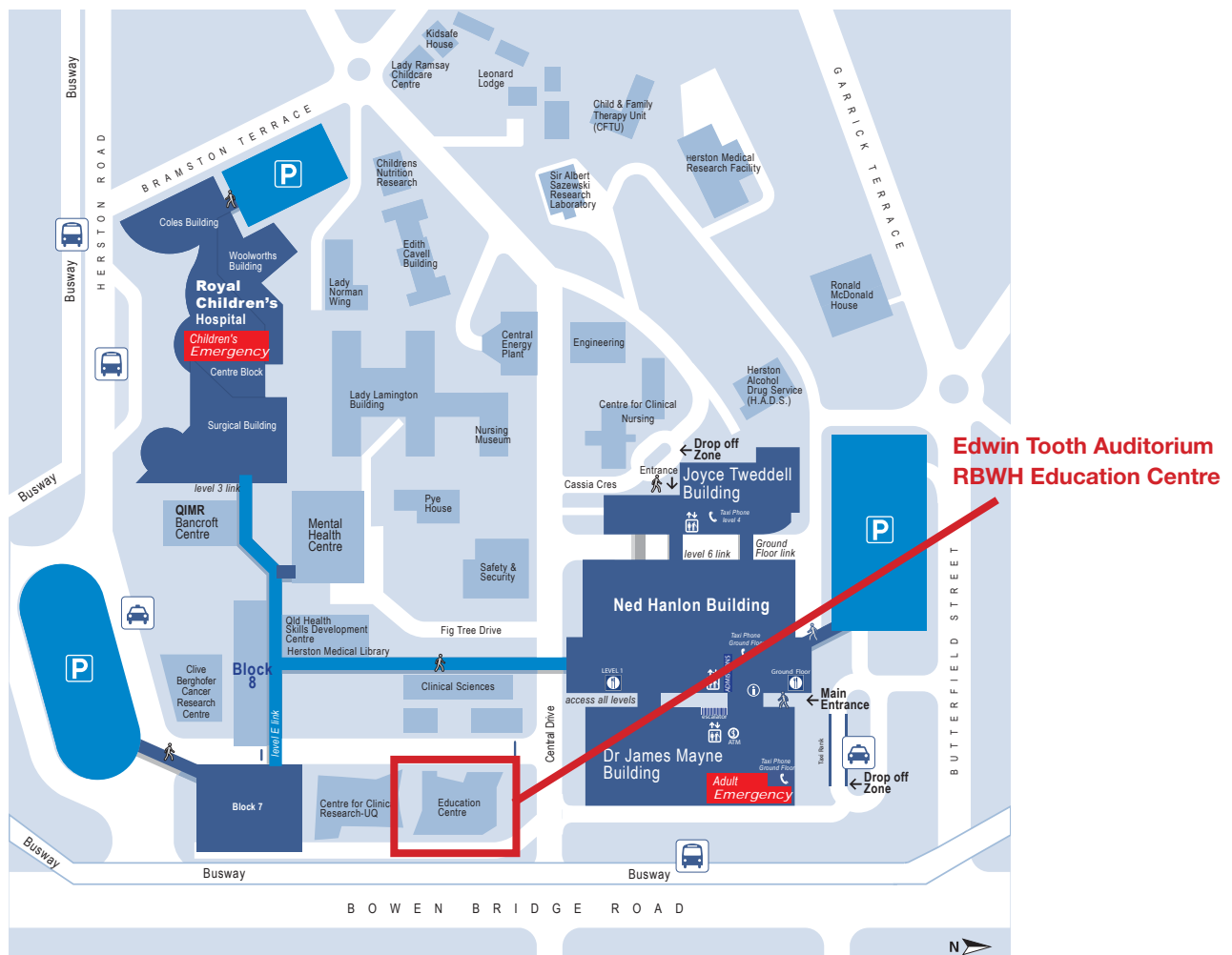
# Program

Details subject to change without notice

## Friday 20 November 2015

8:45am – 9:00am	<b>Registration</b>	Tea and coffee on arrival
9:00am – 10:00am	<b>Improving outcomes for early onset epilepsy</b>	Prof Helen Cross
10:00am – 10:45am	<b>Developing independent health management skills in teens with epilepsy</b>	Dr Kate Riney
10:45am – 11:15am	<b>Morning tea</b>	
11:15am – 12:00pm	<b>The challenges for teenagers with epilepsy</b>	Dr Dan McLaughlin
12:00pm – 12:30pm	<b>Medicinal cannabis - miracle or fairy tale</b>	Prof Helen Cross
12:30pm – 1:00pm	<b>Cognition and memory through the lifespan</b>	Dr Kate Thompson
1:00pm – 1:45pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:45pm – 2:30pm	<b>Epilepsy and women's health / pregnancy and lactation</b>	Dr Cecilie Lander
2:30pm – 3:15pm	<b>Advances in imaging and the implications for clinical practice</b>	Prof David Reutens
3:15pm – 3:45pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	
3:45pm – 4:15pm	<b>The relationship between depression, anxiety and epilepsy</b>	Prof Harry McConnell
4:15pm – 5:00pm	<b>Epilepsy in older patients</b>	Prof Christian Gericke
5:00pm – 5:20pm	<b>Early phase clinical trials for a novel anti-epileptic</b>	Dr Ichhya Shrestha

## Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital Campus



# Queensland Epilepsy Symposium 2015 Speakers



**Professor Helen Cross** is the Prince of Wales's Chair of Childhood Epilepsy and Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Neurology at UCL Institute of Child Health, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust, London, and Young Epilepsy, Lingfield.

Professor Cross qualified from Birmingham University in 1984, trained in paediatrics in Birmingham and subsequently in paediatric neurology in London, obtaining her PhD in 1998.

She is currently Clinical Advisor to the Children's Epilepsy Surgery Services (CESS) (2012-present), is Chair of the Clinical Research Network for Children Neurosciences Clinical Study Group (2012-present), and elected Secretary General of the ILAE to service 2013-2017.

Professor Cross has published widely on seizure, neuropsychological and behavioural outcomes in children who have undergone surgical resection for treatment of their epilepsy.

Her research has focused on improving outcomes for children with early onset epilepsy. Her early research was into improving imaging techniques to determine areas of likely seizure onset in children with drug resistant focal epilepsy and has developed an epilepsy surgery programme based on her research.

She conducted the first randomized controlled trial of the ketogenic diet in the treatment of children with drug resistant focal epilepsy and is endeavouring to conduct the same in the very young and adults. Recognising there was little in the way of control data with regard to neurodevelopmental progress, she initiated the North London Epilepsy in Infancy study, where a cohort of children was recruited at diagnosis in the first two years of life, and has been followed to at least three years. She is now aiming to conduct a similar study over a wider geographical area, also examining phenotypes and genotypes.

She is also endeavouring to examine mechanisms of cognitive impairment - in particular examining the relationship of sleep to memory consolidation.

Former roles include:

- Chair of the ILAE Commission for Paediatrics (2005-2009)
- Assistant Secretary to the Board of the European Paediatric Neurology Society (2005-2009)
- Chair of the Trustees of Epilepsy Research UK (2005-2011)
- President of the British Paediatric Neurology Association (2008-2011)
- Clinical Advisor to the update of the NICE guidelines on diagnosis and management of the epilepsies in adults and children (2009-2012)
- International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) Commission for European Affairs (2009-2013)
- Chair of the Task Force for Paediatric Epilepsy Surgery (2001-2013)



**Dr Kate Riney** is a Paediatric Epileptologist who practices at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in Brisbane. She is a Senior Lecturer at University of Queensland and Chief Executive Officer of Australia and New Zealand Child Neurology Society. She is currently serving on the International League Against Epilepsy's Commission on Classification and Terminology. Kate trained in paediatric neurology at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London with Prof Cross, where she spent the majority of her time working in the complex epilepsy service. She has been awarded a PhD at University College London for research into advanced neuroimaging techniques for children with intractable

focal seizures having evaluation for epilepsy surgery. Kate's current research interests include (SUDEP) sudden unexpected death in epilepsy, clinical trials of new anti-convulsants for children with epilepsy and early interventions to control seizures in patients with tuberous sclerosis.



**Dr Dan McLaughlin** Dr Dan McLaughlin is a Brisbane based Neurologist specialising in treatment of adults with seizure disorders. His research interests are the pharmacology of antiepilepsy drugs. Over the last twenty years he has been a clinical investigator in a number of trials assessing the newer anti-epileptic drugs. Over the same period of time Dr McLaughlin has been an active member of the Epilepsy Society of Australia and currently serves as President.



**Dr Kate Thompson** graduated from University of Queensland Doctorate of Psychology (Clinical Neuropsychology and Clinical Psychology) in 2010.

Employed as psychologist/neuropsychologist for the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service from 2008-2015.

Currently employed as Advanced Clinical Neuropsychologist (locum) for Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital providing clinical neuropsychology services to general neurology patients and specialist multidisciplinary clinics including epilepsy, Huntington's disease and memory disorders.

# Queensland Epilepsy Symposium 2015 Speakers



**Professor Christian Gericke** is a Visiting Medical Specialist at St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital in Brisbane and Honorary Professor at the University of Queensland Schools of Medicine, Population Health, the Queensland Brain Institute, and Adjunct Professor at Queensland University of Technology.

From 2010 to 2012 he was Professor of Public Health at Peninsula Medical School, Universities of Exeter and Plymouth, and Deputy Director of National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care for Devon and Cornwall. He also held clinical appointments in the NHS as Honorary Consultant Neurologist and Public Health Physician. During 2006 to 2010 he was Professor of Public Health Policy and Director of the Centre for Health Services Research at the University of Adelaide and Honorary Fellow of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, with a number of roles for the Australian Commonwealth and State Governments.

Christian studied medicine in Berlin, Montpellier and Boston, received an M.D. in neuroscience from the Free University of Berlin, and completed his specialist training in neurology and epileptology at the University Hospitals of Berlin, Strasbourg and Geneva. He also trained in public health medicine in Cambridge and Berlin and holds masters degrees in health policy (London), public health (Cambridge) and business administration (Deakin) as well as a higher doctorate in public health from Berlin University of Technology.



**Associate Professor Cecilie Lander** is a clinical neurologist and epileptologist in Brisbane. She trained at the Royal Brisbane Hospital, the Austin Hospital in Melbourne and the University College Hospital in London. Returning to Brisbane in 1979, Cecilie has worked continuously in both private and public neurological practice with particular clinical and research interests in epilepsy. She was a Senior Visiting Neurologist at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospitals for 34 years, and continues as an Honorary Visiting Neurologist at the RBWH as Associate Professor in Neurology with the University of Queensland. During the last dozen years, she commenced the Epilepsy Surgery Program at the RBWH and together with her colleagues, more than 40 cases of epilepsy surgery have been successfully undertaken with very pleasing results.

Cecilie has had a long standing interest in the pharmacological management of epilepsy, especially in women in the areas of pre-pregnancy planning, pregnancy and post-partum management. She established a specific Antenatal Clinic for Women with Epilepsy in 1979 at the RBWH and this clinic continues to serve women with epilepsy who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy. She is a Co-Investigator of the Australian Pregnancy Register for Women on anti-epileptic medication.



**Professor David Reutens** is the Director of Epilepsy Services at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and the Director of the Centre for Advanced Imaging. Professor Reutens' research involves the use of a variety of imaging techniques to study functions such as memory in the healthy brain, the underlying mechanisms of diseases such as epilepsy, and how the brain responds to overcome injury.



**Professor Harry McConnell** is the Clinical Subdean at Gold Coast District Health Services and Griffith University School of Medicine where he is also Professor of Neuropsychiatry and Neurodisability. He is Chair of the South East Queensland Disability Advisory Council and serves on the Queensland Disability Advisory Council and nationally on the Prescription Medicines Committee of the TGA. He has trained and worked at the Institute of Epileptology at Kings College, London. He obtained his fellowship with the Royal Australian New Zealand College of Psychiatrists on the basis of his seniority and international eminence. Professor McConnell is Director of Neurosciences at St Vincent's Hospital Brisbane where he is establishing a service with a major focus on epilepsy.

**Dr Ichhya Shrestha** is a Medical Practitioner and Investigator at Q-Pharm Pty Limited, a specialist early phase clinical trials company owned by the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute and located on the RBWH Campus. She is Principal Investigator in a clinical trial investigating cannabidiol as a novel anti-epileptic for treatment resistant epilepsy.

