



Monash Newborn
Handled with Care



Monash Newborn

Meet the team

Team members

1	Associate Professor Charles Barfield, Director, Monash Newborn.....	2
2	Dr Tony Lewis, Deputy Director, Monash Newborn.....	2
3	Dr Alice Stewart, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn	2
4	Dr Atul Malhotra, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Research Scientist at The Ritchie Centre; Senior Lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University.....	3
5	Associate Professor Flora Wong, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Associate Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University; Head of the Neonatal Brain Protection Laboratory at The Ritchie Centre	3
6	Dr Elizabeth Carse, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Head of the Growth and Development Clinic	4
7	Dr Risha Bhatia, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn	4
8	Professor Arvind Sehgal, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University.....	4
9	Dr Kenneth Tan, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Senior Lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University; honorary staff member of the Hudson Institute of Medical Research	5
10	Dr Calum Roberts, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Kathleen Tinsley Research Fellow, Department of Paediatrics, Monash University.....	5
11	Dr Pramod Pharande, Neonatal Consultant Monash Newborn	6
12	Jacquie Taylor, Nurse Unit Manager and Clinical Lead Sunbird nursery	6
13	Alison Medhurst, Nurse Unit Manager and Clinical Lead Kingfisher nursery.	6

1 Associate Professor Charles Barfield, Director, Monash Newborn

Associate Professor Charles Barfield started work at Monash Medical Centre in February 1990.

Along with Professor Victor Yu, Dr Andrew Ramsden and Dr Elizabeth Carse he was involved in the introduction of surfactant therapy, high frequency ventilation and nitric oxide therapy to babies in Monash Newborn.

In the Ritchie Centre for Baby Health Research, as part of Professor Adrian Walker's team, he used near infrared spectroscopy to study brain blood flow in the laboratory and then later in preterm babies in the NICU.

From 2005 until late 2015, Dr Barfield worked at the Mercy Hospital for Women before returning to Monash Newborn as Director.



2 Dr Tony Lewis, Deputy Director, Monash Newborn

Dr Tony Lewis has been Deputy Director at Monash Newborn for several years and maintains a small after-hours commitment with the Paediatric Infant Perinatal Emergency Retrieval service.

Following his undergraduate years at WITS Medical School, South Africa, and his military service where he developed an interest in aviation medicine and casualty evacuation, he trained as a pathologist and worked as a medical microbiologist.

Dr Lewis retrained as a general paediatrician in New Zealand where he developed an interest in neonatal retrievals and later completed his neonatal training at the Mater and Royal Women's Hospitals in Brisbane.



3 Dr Alice Stewart, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn

Dr Alice Stewart is a Consultant Neonatologist at Monash Newborn.

Her interests are in interprofessional collaboration, health professional education and mentoring, and simulation-based training in human factors and teamwork.

She jointly coordinates the Monash Newborn academic and simulation programs, and the Melbourne Neonatal Fellows Program.



Dr Stewart is heavily involved in the activities of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and is a member of the Basic Training Curricula Review and Research Projects Resource Development working groups.

4 Dr Atul Malhotra, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Research Scientist, The Ritchie Centre; Senior Lecturer Department of Paediatrics, Monash University



Dr Atul Malhotra is a Consultant Neonatologist at Monash Newborn and research scientist at The Ritchie Centre, Hudson Institute of Medical Research. A senior lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University, he is also the recipient of a Royal Australasian College of Physicians Foundation Research Fellowship. His research focuses on improving respiratory and neurological outcomes of high risk infants and understanding and treating brain injury related to high risk perinatal conditions. Dr Malhotra has been instrumental in the translation of several preclinical therapies from the laboratory to the clinic and is heavily involved in the education and simulation activities of the unit.

5 Associate Professor Flora Wong, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Associate Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University; Head of the Neonatal Brain Protection Laboratory at The Ritchie Centre



Associate Professor Flora Wong is a Consultant Neonatologist at Monash Newborn, an Associate Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University and Head of the Neonatal Brain Protection Laboratory at The Ritchie Centre, The Hudson Institute of Medical Research.

Dr Wong was awarded the NHMRC Career Development Fellowship (2015-2018) to continue her research in newborn cerebral pathophysiology, cerebral blood flow and oxygenation in relation to brain injury in newborn infants undergoing intensive care.

Her projects investigate mechanisms of newborn brain injury, development of cot-side monitoring and neuroprotective strategies.

Dr Wong is an expert in using near-infrared spectroscopy to examine the cerebral haemodynamics and has pioneered the research utilising Spatially Resolved Spectroscopy in Australia.

Her publications demonstrate a strategic set of studies that work towards the identification of circulatory factors which contribute to neonatal brain injury and testing new clinical interventions.

As lead research neonatologist, she led an international multi-disciplinary team of scientists and clinicians to perform the world's first transhepatic fetal pulmonary valvuloplasty and atrial

septal stenting in the fetal lamb as a potential treatment for hypoplastic right and left heart disease.

6 Dr Elizabeth Carse, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn and Head of the Growth and Development Clinic

Dr Elizabeth Carse is a Consultant Neonatologist at Monash Newborn and heads the Growth and Development Clinic which carries out long term neurodevelopmental follow-up of extremely preterm and high risk babies.

The Clinic is actively involved in state-wide collaborative studies of the health, education and quality of life of extremely preterm and other high risk babies when they reach school age and continuing through to early adult life.

It also participates in national and international studies examining the effects of new maternal medications and new NICU treatments on later outcomes of the most vulnerable babies.



7 Dr Risha Bhatia, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn

Dr Risha Bhatia is a Consultant Neonatologist with Monash Newborn. Her clinical and research interests lie in neonatal respiratory physiology in particular in optimising non-invasive respiratory support for which she was awarded a PhD from the University of Melbourne, newborn resuscitation and neonatal retrieval.

Dr Risha Bhatia has a special interest in health care ethics and is actively involved in the quality and educational activities of the unit



8 Professor Arvind Sehgal, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University

Professor Arvind Sehgal is a Consultant Neonatologist at Monash Newborn and Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University.

He completed a Fellowship in Neonatal Cardiology at University College Hospital, London, UK and The Integrated Neonatal Perinatal Fellowship at The Hospital for Sick Children and University of Toronto, Canada.

Professor Sehgal joined Monash as a neonatologist in 2007 and has functional echocardiography in critical care as his clinical and research interest.



He organises the biennial Monash Cardiovascular Symposium and has led 'Topic Symposia' and Echocardiography workshops at international conferences.

He has more than 80 publications in international peer-reviewed journals and recently completed his PhD under the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University.

9 Dr Kenneth Tan, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Senior Lecturer, Department of Paediatrics, Monash University; honorary staff member of the Hudson Institute of Medical Research

Dr Kenneth Tan is a Consultant Neonatologist in Monash Newborn, Senior Lecturer with the Department of Paediatrics, Monash University and honorary staff member of the Hudson Institute of Medical Research.



He trained in Melbourne before pursuing specialist training in the United Kingdom. As paediatrics lecturer at the University of Leeds, he undertook research on fuzzy logic control in the NICU for which he was awarded a PhD.

Dr Tan's research interest in engineering applications in the NICU began with collaboration with biomedical engineers at McMaster University in Canada and continues within the Monash Institute of Medical Engineering.

Dr Tan is an active member of the Australian and New Zealand Neonatal Network and sits on the practise improvement committee which fits with his other interests of data analytics and statistical modelling for quality improvement in the NICU.

He is a collaborator on NHMRC- funded multi-centre randomised controlled trials such as ProPREMS, BOOST-II and N3RO. He is also a long-time author with the Cochrane Neonatal Review Group with numerous published systematic reviews.

10 Dr Calum Roberts, Consultant Neonatologist, Monash Newborn; Kathleen Tinsley Research Fellow, Department of Paediatrics, Monash University

Dr Calum Roberts is a Consultant Neonatologist with Monash Newborn and recipient of the Kathleen Tinsley Research Fellowship from the Department of Paediatrics at Monash University.



He completed his specialist training in the United Kingdom and in Melbourne, and held Consultant positions at the James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough, UK, and with the Victorian Paediatric Infant Perinatal Emergency Retrieval service before joining Monash Newborn.

Dr Roberts was the principal investigator of the HIPSTER trial, which investigated the use of nasal High Flow treatment in preterm infants, resulting in the award of a PhD from the

University of Melbourne. His research focuses on newborn resuscitation and optimising respiratory support for preterm infants.

11 Dr Pramod Pharande, Neonatal Consultant Monash Newborn

Dr Pramod Pharande is a Neonatal Consultant at Monash Newborn. He has a special interest in improving neonatal nutrition. During his training in New South Wales he played a substantial role in the development of standardised Parenteral Nutrition solutions. He is also very interested in Infection Prevention and is committed to obtaining a zero rate of infection in central lines.

Dr Pharande is affiliated with the Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM) and is focused on “point of care ultrasound” to improve clinical care, for advancing research in neonatal haemodynamics and for trainee education.



12 Jacquie Taylor, Nurse Unit Manager and Clinical Lead Sunbird nursery

Jacquie Taylor is the Nurse Unit Manager and Clinical Lead for the Sunbird nursery. Jacquie is very interested in research and evidence based medicine. She has recently completed a PhD studying the impact of checklists and education to reduce the rate of central line infection. Jacquie is a very strong advocate for Family Centred Care in Newborn Nurseries.



13 Alison Medhurst, Nurse Unit Manager and Clinical Lead Kingfisher nursery

Alison Medhurst is the Nurse Unit Manager and Clinical Lead for the Kingfisher nursery. Alison is a passionate supporter of team based care in the Newborn Nurseries. She has played an integral path in the growth of Monash Newborn and has led the introduction of surfactant therapy, high frequency oscillation and nitric oxide therapy. She was part of the development and implementation of BadgerNet – our electronic medical record.

