

# Welcome to ACTA 2019

*Building a self-improving  
healthcare system*

**John Zalcberg**

*ACTA Chair; Professor of Cancer Research, Monash  
School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine*

ACTA Summit 2018  
Sydney

# Welcome to this *and future* ACTA Summits!

- › Great gains and *challenging opportunities on the horizon*
- › Sharing progress, surveying the landscape, relishing *transformational* challenges ahead



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# Surveying the clinical trials sector landscape



## *Informed by ACTA's ten-year sector review*

- › more than 1,000 studies
- › more than one-million participants
- › more than \$1 billion research funding
- › 25% of overall NHMRC funds clinical trials
- › 50% of NHMRC budget for trials > \$1 million
- › 40,000 citations, including *NEJM*, *Lancet*, *JAMA*, *BMJ*, *PLOS Med*
- › > 100+ high-impact trials with reported impact on policy/practice

*... and \$5.80 for every \$1 invested!*

Economic evaluation of investigator-initiated clinical trials conducted by networks. ACTA 2017

# What can we do to transform healthcare?



## *Better health through best evidence*

We are here to ...

**GROW**

**STRENGTHEN**

**SUPPORT**

Australia's clinical trials sector and capacity

# Australian clinical trials, CT networks and registries: are they optimally ...

- › ... efficient and effective?
- › ... sized, extensive and scalable?
- › ... delivering implementable results?
- › ... embedded throughout the healthcare system?
- › ... involving consumers?
- › ... prioritised?
- › ... equipped with the *best* tools to extract and exploit the *best* data?
- › ... innovative in design and how they identify, use and share outcome data?

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**... it's a work in progress.**

## ... there's an ACTA Reference Group for that!

- › Efficient and Effective CTNs
- › CTN Sector Expansion
- › Impact and Implementation of CTN Trials
- › Embedding Clinical Trials in Healthcare
- › Strengthening Consumer Engagement in Developing, Conducting and Reporting Clinical Trials
- › Research Prioritisation: Tools and Criteria
- › Innovative Trial Design
- › Innovative Outcome Data

# Why is clinical research so important?

- › Certainly not for its own sake
- › It's about *better patient care and outcomes*
- › That's *Better health though best evidence*



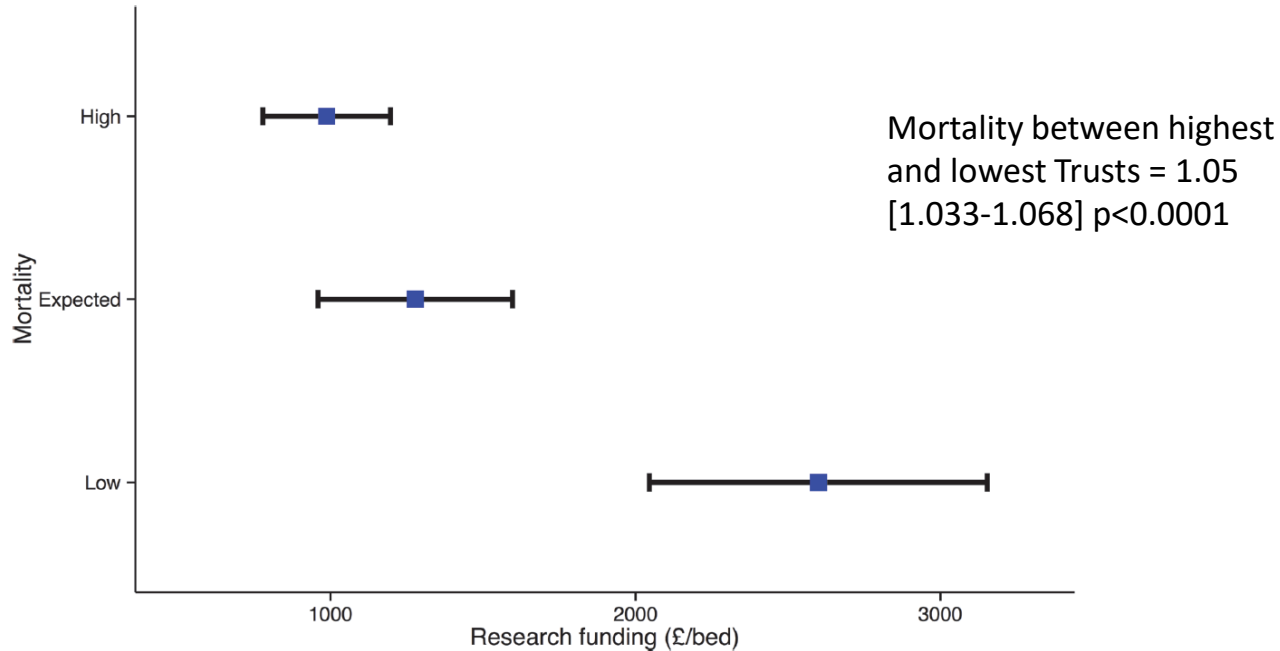
## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Research Activity and the Association with Mortality

**Baris A. Ozdemir<sup>1\*</sup>, Alan Karthikesalingam<sup>1</sup>, Sidhartha Sinha<sup>1</sup>, Jan D. Poloniecki<sup>1</sup>, Robert J. Hinchliffe<sup>1</sup>, Matt M. Thompson<sup>1</sup>, Jonathan D. Gower<sup>2</sup>, Annette Boaz<sup>3</sup>, Peter J. E. Holt<sup>1</sup>**

**1** Department of Outcomes Research, St George's Vascular Institute, London, United Kingdom, **2** NIHR Comprehensive Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre, Leeds, United Kingdom, **3** Centre for Health and Social Care Research, St George's University of London, Cranmer Terrace, London, United Kingdom

# NIHR CCRN funding (£/bed)



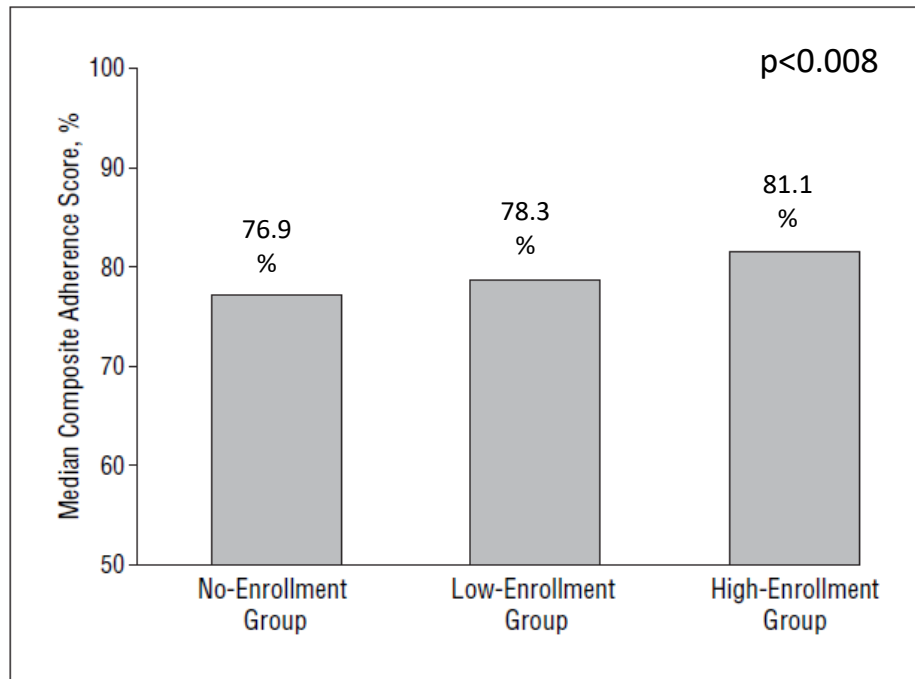
## ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

# Better Outcomes for Patients Treated at Hospitals That Participate in Clinical Trials

*Sumit R. Majumdar, MD, MPH; Matthew T. Roe, MD, MHS; Eric D. Peterson, MD, MPH;  
Anita Y. Chen, MS; W. Brian Gibler, MD; Paul W. Armstrong, MD*

Total inpatient pool – 174,062  
Total trial accrual – 4,590 (3%) in 494  
hospitals

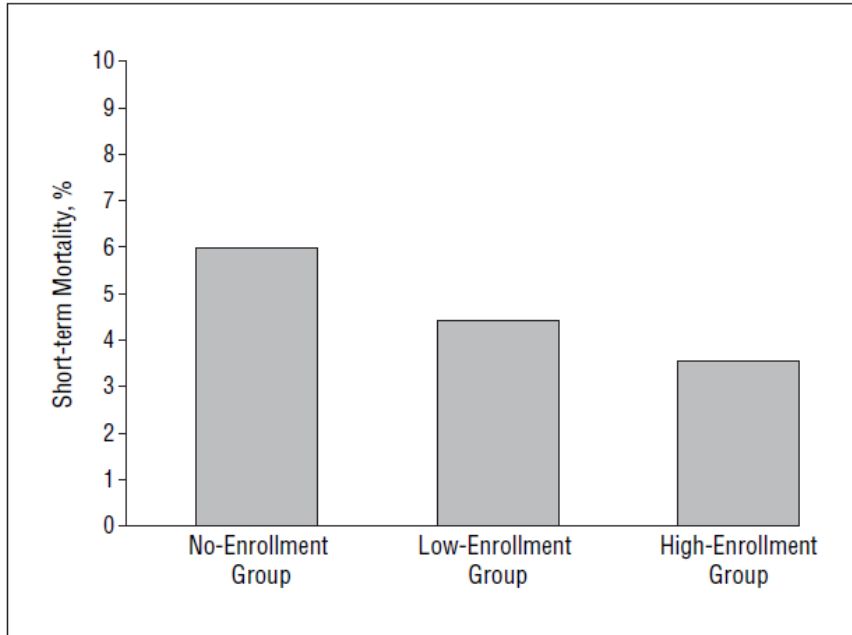
# Adherence to evidence-based guideline recommendations



At 494 CRUSADE (Can Rapid Risk Stratification of Unstable Angina Patients Suppress Adverse Outcomes With Early Implementation of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Guidelines) hospitals.

*Arch Intern Med.* 2008;168(6):657-662

# Short-term mortality



In 174,062 patients with acute coronary syndrome treated at 494 CRUSADE hospitals.

*Arch Intern Med.* 2008;168(6):657-662

# On with the transformation

**ACTA Summit 2018**  
29-30 November 2018  
The University of Sydney Business School

**Summit day one**  
29-30 November 2018  
The University of Sydney Business School

**DAY ONE — Thursday 29 November 2018**

08:30 Registration

**Opening session: Better health through best evidence**

Chair  
**Prof Tony Keach**  
ACTA Summit Convener, Deputy Director, NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, University of Sydney

09:00 **Welcome message: our better health through best evidence future**  
ACTA Chair and Professor of Cancer Research, Monash Public Health and Preventive Medicine  
**Prof John Zujewski**

09:15 **Investment in research to improve Australia's health system and contribute to jobs**  
Secretary, Australian Government Department of Health  
**Glenys Brauchamp**

09:40 **Better patient care in a complex adaptive health system: evidence into practice**  
Senior Research Fellow, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University  
**Dr Robyn Clay-Williams**

10:05 **A NSW bird's eye view: current and ongoing strategies to enhance research team**  
Executive Director, Office for Health and Medical Research  
**Dr Antonio Penna**

10:30 Morning tea

**Session 2: Strengthening networks**

Chair:  
**Prof Steve Webb**  
Intensive Care Unit, Royal Perth Hospital; School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University

11:00 **Developing best practice guidance for Clinical Trials Network operations**  
Liggins Institute, University of Auckland  
**A/Prof Katie Groom**

11:30 **The formation of the ANZMUSC Clinical Trials Network: Lessons learned**  
Cabrini Institute and Monash University; Australia and New Zealand Musculoskeletal Clinical Trials Network  
**Prof Rachelle Buchbinder**

11:40 **Challenges and successes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clinical research**  
Director, Menzies School of Health Research  
**Prof Alan Cass**

12:00 **Building a self-improving healthcare system**  
29-30 November 2018 | The University of Sydney Business School

**ACTA Summit program**

Principal partners  
Bb delivery channel  
CTIQ  
Sponsors  
ACTA gratefully acknowledges operational funding from the Australian Government's Medical Research Future Fund

**Speaker biographies**

**Prof Rachelle Buchbinder**  
Senior Principal Research Fellow, Rheumatologist and clinical epidemiologist. She is the Director, Monash Institute and Professor, Department of Clinical Epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University.  
Her other roles include Coordinating Editor, Co-Chair, Australia & New Zealand Musculoskeletal (ANZMUSC) Clinical Trials Network.  
She combines clinical practice with research in a wide range of musculoskeletal conditions as well as improving communication with patients and health literacy. She has a longstanding commitment to knowledge synthesis and implementation of clinical research evidence to guide clinical decision-making and improve patient outcomes.

**Dr Robyn Clay-Williams**  
Dr Robyn Clay-Williams is a senior research fellow and specialist in health systems research.  
Robyn leads a research stream in the field of human factors and resilience healthcare in the Centre for the Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University, Australia.  
Her expertise, in human factors and resilience engineering, entails developing cross-industry theoretical frameworks to describe system level contributions to safety in complex socio-technical systems.  
Prior to her work in health services research, Robyn was a military best place, and electronics engineer through a PhD, which in turn internationally recognised work, translated aviation teamwork concepts to health care via a randomized controlled trial evaluating a Crew Resource Management based training intervention.  
Robyn has produced over 100 peer-reviewed research outputs in high impact journals and conferences, including the British Journal of Anaesthesia, the British Journal of Plastic Surgery, and the British Journal of Anaesthesia, and has secured over \$1M in grant funding as a Chief Investigator over nine years.  
She holds a NSW Health Early-Mid Career research fellowship in health service and system improving productive safety in hospital Emergency Departments.  
Robyn is a member of the Resilient Health Care Network, and has contributed eight chapters to the Resilient Health Care series of books edited by Hoffrage, Braithwaite and Wears. She has received two international awards (2016, 2018) for her work implementing resilient health care principles in hospitals.

**Prof Alan Cass**  
Professor Cass is the Director of Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies), having trained as a kidney specialist at Sydney University and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Prof Cass has pursued a research career with a particular interest in the prevention and management of chronic disease and Indigenous health.  
His research has focused on developing, implementing and evaluating effective strategies to improve health outcomes. Professor Cass has a comprehensive understanding of health service delivery needs of Indigenous Australians, for example, as a clinician, he has worked in a number of capacity providing care to patients and family members in urban, rural and remote settings.  
Professor Cass has been instrumental in leading the conduct of national and international clinical trials; and to improve provision of care to patients with low health literacy, who speak a different language and have different understandings of health and illness.  
Professor Cass has published more than 200 peer-reviewed papers and seminal reports for governments and NGOs. He is immediate past-President of the ANZ Society of Nephrology (Kidney Australia).

**Janelle Bowden**  
Janelle is a scientist by training with a Bachelor in Biotechnology (Hons) degree and PhD in Immunology.  
After leading an anti-inflammatory preclinical research program in a startup biotech, Janelle began a clinical research career that has spanned pharmaceutical companies, contract research organisations (CROs), within hospitals and as an independent consultant and entrepreneur.  
Driven by the belief that clinical research can improve and save lives, Janelle is on a mission to ensure the research that matters to patients is done, executed to, and conducted efficiently support their running trials.  
In 2017, Research4Me was founded as a social platform for community engagement in medical research. Providing support, information, training to both the public and researchers, through partnership Research4Me aims to increase awareness, participation and involvement of the public in medical research, by making it easier.

**Mag Braul**  
Mag Braul has been involved as a consumer representative in Palliative Care since 2010. She started with the SA State-Wide Pall Care Clinical Network.  
In 2013 she joined the Management Advisory Board of ABCOSC (The Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative) a national research collaborative of National Advisory Group for Cancer Research.  
From January 2017 she has also participated in the Consumer Advisory Group for IMVICT at the University of Technology Sydney, IMVICT standing for Improving Palliative, Adult and Chronic Care is committed to both consumer participation in palliative care and to the research that gives the evidence base for how to best care for the dying.

clinicaltrialsalliance.org.au

# Thank you

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