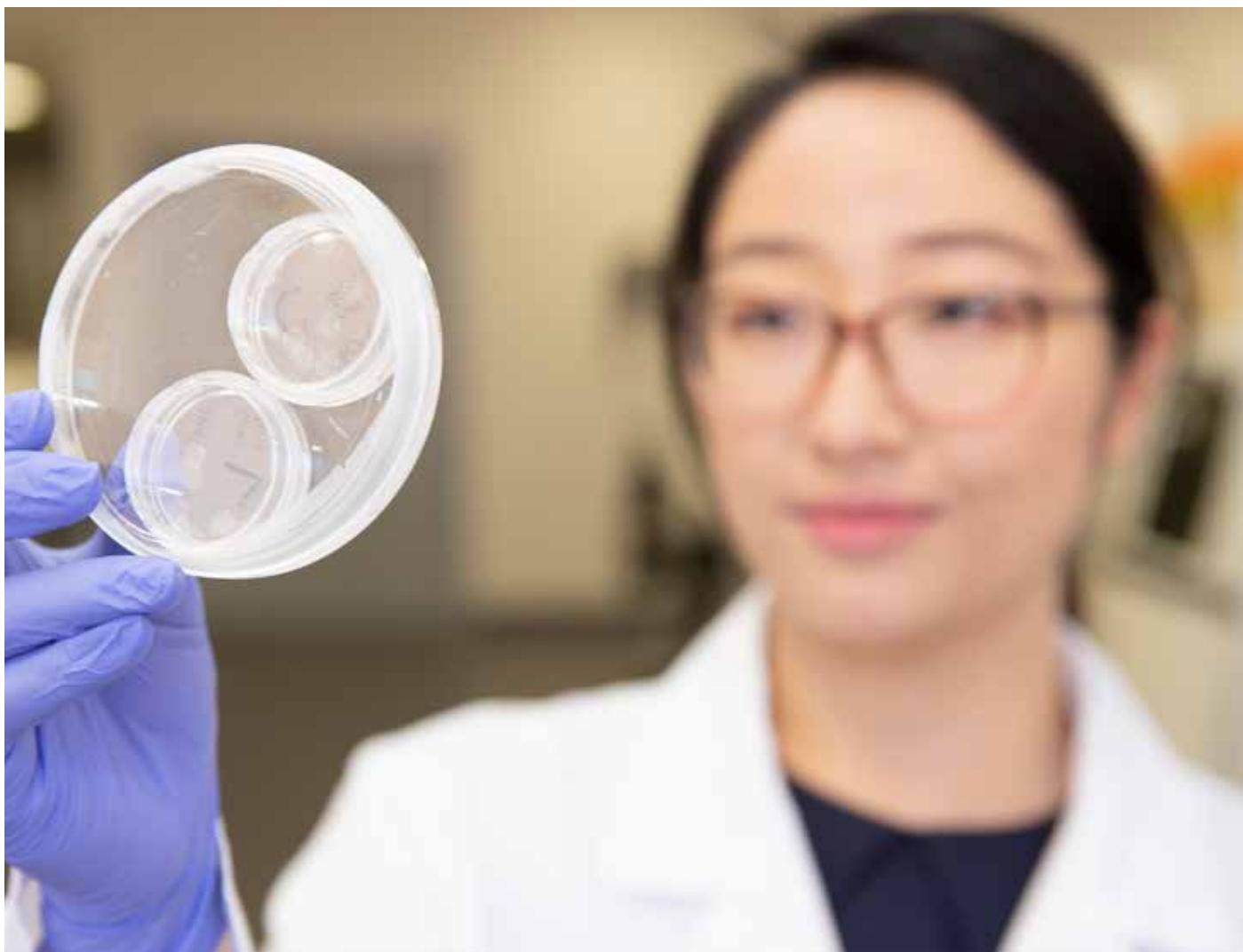


Ear Science Institute Australia

2022 Impact Report

Innovation and impact in ear and hearing research, education & treatment.





THE EAR SCIENCE STORY

Ear Science Institute Australia (Ear Science) is a centre of excellence, bringing together a multidisciplinary team of the brightest minds from across the globe. With researchers, surgeons, audiologists, clinicians, scientists and consumers all working together to enhance the lives of those with ear and hearing disorders by discovering and delivering innovative treatments and one day a cure for hearing loss.

We are committed to implementing new treatments for today in clinical care and developing ground-breaking cures for tomorrow's generations.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our impact on ear and hearing health in 2022.

Table of contents

A message from Rob Gordan, Chairman	4
A message from Adj Assoc Professor Sandra Bellekom, CEO	5
Our Values	6
Excellence in Ear & Hearing Research	8
Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Ear and Hearing Research	12
Competitive Grant Success	15
Hearing is Important	16
Ear & Hearing Treatments	18
Ear & Hearing Awareness & Education	22
Gift of Hearing	25
Our Supporters	26
Financials	28
Our People	29
Team Ear Science	30

Ear Science Institute Australia respects all ways of communication.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation as the traditional custodians of this country that Ear Science Institute Australia stands on. We pay our respects to Noongar elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge their wisdom and contribution to positive health and well-being outcomes.



A message from Rob Gordon

Chairman

I am honoured to address you as the newly appointed Chairman of **Ear Science Institute Australia** in 2022. I am thrilled to join a team of talented and dedicated individuals who are committed to advancing medical science and improving the ear and hearing health of people locally and around the world.

I am deeply impressed by the institute's 20-year history of ground-breaking research and innovation, and I am excited to build on that legacy in the years to come. As we move forward, I am eager to work with the **Ear Science Board** and CEO to drive the institute's growth and success.

When I see the incredible progressions in life-changing research our researchers make, and I hear of the transformation

in someone's life when they are under the care of **Lions Hearing Clinic**, and **Ear Science Implant Clinic**, I watch with a significant amount of pride, knowing that I will play a part in this remarkable medical research institute.

I believe that the key to achieving our goals is a shared sense of purpose, a willingness to collaborate, and a commitment to excellence. I am committed to fostering an environment that is conducive to innovation, creativity, and excellence and to providing the resources and support needed for everyone to do their best work.

Our immediate plans for 2023 are to enact our new 5-year strategic plan to take the organisation forward, improving lives today and leading us to a future free of hearing loss. I thank and

acknowledge Mr Schaffer's significant contribution over the past seven years as the outgoing Chairman; he will continue contributing to Ear Science on the Board of Trustees.

I look forward to working with everyone to advance our mission and make a meaningful impact on the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rob Gordon'.

Rob Gordon

Chairman,
Ear Science Institute Australia

A message from Adj Assoc Professor Sandra Bellekom CEO



2022 was a very positive and impactful year for **Ear Science Institute Australia**. Due to the strength of our organisation, we weathered the continued COVID disruptions and resulting skills shortage. We maintained our focus and momentum on enhancing the lives of those with ear and hearing disorders through clinically focused research, industry-leading education, and providing quality hearing care to the community.

Given these external factors, we are very proud of our performance this financial year. Headlined by a gross surplus for FY22 of 8.7% higher than the previous year, the significant strengthening and scaling of our Corporate and Research teams, and surpassing our FY21 research grant success.

In 2022, we invested heavily in the development and growth of our people. We finished the year with over 150 team members, including consultants and volunteers, representing the deepest and broadest set of skills and expertise in **Ear Science** to date, including surgeons, researchers, medical specialists, scientists, clinicians and support staff.

We were so pleased to have Rob Gordon accept the appointment as our new Chairman, with John Schaffer stepping aside after seven years in the role and remaining on the Board of Trustees. Rob has been a member of the **Ear Science** Board for over 18 months, with extensive clinical business experience and a strong interest in social impact and systems change; he shares **Ear Science's** fundamental belief that hearing is important for all aspects of life. This appointment marks an exciting new chapter for **Ear Science**.

It is with sadness that we announced the passing of Lorna Dodd on the 19th of September 2022 at the age of 96 years. Lorna was a Lion through and through, initially as a member of the South Perth Lions Club when it was formed in 1974 and right up to the day of her passing. Her passion for Lions was evident whenever I met her. Her passion for helping people to hear remains at the heart of **Ear Science Institute Australia**, and we continue to help people hear at our **Lions Hearing Clinics**.

Ear Science Institute Australia was proudly selected as the state

and national winner in the Telstra Best of Business Awards for Championing Health. Out of over 24,000 nominations, **Ear Science** was chosen as the exemplar of championing health in Australia. A true reflection of the hard work and dedication shown by all areas of Ear Science, significantly improving health outcomes for Australians.

Each of our achievements highlighted in this report began with our supporters. I give my heartfelt thanks on behalf of everyone at **Ear Science**.

We are currently at an exciting point in our evolution as we continue to build on our successes. Over 2023 and beyond, Ear Science will continue to evolve and become even more robust, sustainable and well-placed to impact Australia and the world positively.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra Bellekom'.

Sandra Bellekom
Chief Executive Officer,
Ear Science Institute Australia

Our Values

Ear Science is committed to living our values and improving the health outcomes of our community both locally and globally.



Through dedication to excellence in
medical research,
business success and promoting an
innovative mindset, the
The Ear Science team celebrate
authenticity and understands the
importance of a values-based culture.

We strive to celebrate our successes institute-wide, reminding our team that they are part of something remarkable. They all play a significant part in championing hearing health in Western Australia, Australia and the world.

Excellence

We are motivated to exceed expectations and discover more. We celebrate our achievements that bring professional respect and global recognition.

Innovation

We challenge boundaries and technologies to lead the field and think outside the square. Our experience and drive ensure we remain at the forefront of our profession to discover new and better outcomes.

Success

Our independence and experience allow us to devise and tailor solutions to provide people with the most appropriate care. Our leadership position inspires collaborative work with other renowned research facilities to maximise and deliver the best results.

Authenticity

We remain honest, open, and approachable with our colleagues and our patients. Our integrity ensures that we promote and provide patient-centred clinical care. We foster and encourage a supportive environment for all.



Our mission is to enhance the lives of those with ear and hearing disorders by discovering and delivering innovative treatments.

Excellence in Ear & Hearing Research



Ear Science continues to tackle a health condition that impacts over 1.5 billion worldwide (World Report on Hearing, 2021) who live with hearing loss. We strive for new treatments for today and cures for tomorrow. Our strength is discovering new paradigms and innovating in ear and hearing science to transform ear and hearing health.

In 2022, **Dr David Sly** joined **Ear Science** as the Chief Operating Officer of Research. As an auditory neuroscientist and innovator, his experience in leading large teams of engineers and scientists in developing medical and auditory-related technology has been a fantastic addition to the research team. Under his guidance, all major ear and hearing research projects continued to progress in line with our Research Strategy, with significant progress in several research programs.

Along with Dr Sly, we welcomed nine additional accomplished and early career researchers to the home of **Ear Science**. **Assoc Professor Melanie Ferguson**, **Assoc Professor Hani Al Salami** and **Adj Professor Rob Eikelboom** were all named in Stanford University's ranking in the top 2% most cited world scientists for 2021.

Ear Science Therapeutics Pty Ltd, a spinout company, was established in 2022 to be the commercial arm of the exciting discoveries arising from our research in the hearing therapeutics research division.



Bio-nanotechnology to cure hearing loss



Assoc Professor Hani Al-Salami has achieved a significant milestone by developing a new platform to test the ability of drugs to make their way into the inner ear. The effectiveness of the drugs to travel through membranes is enhanced through the use of nanotechnology.

Hearing and mental well-being



Dr Bec Bennett completed her Raine Cockell Fellowship, funded by the Raine Medical Research Foundation. The project developed and implemented a training program for **Lions Hearing Clinic** audiologists, helping them better support and refer their clients with poor mental well-being.

Empowerment in hearing care



Assoc Professor Mel Ferguson led the development of clinician tools to measure empowerment related to hearing. The first is a brief 5-item tool for clinical use, and the second is a 15-item tool for more in-depth examination for research.

She also led an update of the influential Cochrane Review on Hearing Aids for mild and moderate hearing loss, showing that some cognitive functions (executive functions and working memory) are significantly improved by hearing aids.

HearCog Clinical trial



Dr Dona Jayakody completed the first testing phase of the 24-month randomised control trial, HearCog. This studies the impact of using hearing aids on cognitive function. Full results on the impact of such hearing rehabilitation on older adults at risk of dementia are expected in 2024.

Dr Jayakody also was selected as one of only 60 for the Superstars of STEM program, a Science & Technology Australia initiative funded by the Australian Government's Department of Industry. This program will support Dr Jayakody in reducing the number of people diagnosed with dementia by understanding the number one risk factor – hearing loss.

Healing of perforated eardrums



In a world-first, **Dr Lawrence Liew** identified a specific treatment for eardrum regeneration called antisense oligonucleotides. These are special molecules that can alter the formation of proteins. They are proving to be very useful in taking advantage of new knowledge in genetics to discover and develop new drugs.

Using preclinical models in the **Ear Science** laboratories, Lawrence showed that a single application of this antisense oligonucleotide stimulated the healing of perforated eardrums.

Improving the cochlear implant journey



Working with Cochlear Ltd as part of a REDI Fellowship, **Dr Cathy Sucher** is developing a suite of tools to enhance the identification and referral of potential cochlear implant recipients. A clinical trial with **Lions Hearing Clinic** of one of the tools, is underway to track its effectiveness.

Biomaterials for the treatment of chronic middle ear disease



Dr Filippo Valente reached a significant milestone by patenting a novel use of silk scaffolds to counter biofilm formation in chronic otitis media, a significant ear disease. Furthermore, **Ear Science** has entered into an agreement with a medical device company to extend the use of our patented silk materials for cardiovascular applications.

Regenerating inner ear hair cells



Dr Elaine Wong and colleagues were awarded an international patent on the human cell model for sensorineural hearing loss. Dr Wong has successfully grown pluripotent stem cells to explore personalised drug treatments for sensorineural hearing loss from human skin cells.

Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Ear and Hearing Research



Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI)

Our sustained collaboration efforts are paying off with continued growth in positive collegiate relationships with other Medical Research Institutes via our affiliation with AAMRI. The coordinated approach with AAMRI at the helm has seen the creation of a Western Australian branch and has increased interest and support for biotech by the Western Australian state government.



Western Australian Health Translation Network (WAHTN)

Ear Science researchers participated in the 2022 Science on the Swan conference, showcasing the best research and scientific endeavour in Western Australia, covering a mix of fundamental, biomedical, clinical, health and social science. **Adj Professor and CEO Sandra Bellekom** chaired the Biomedical Innovation Around the World session.

WSAudiology

WS Audiology (Denmark)

Assoc Prof Mel Ferguson and **Dr Bec Bennett**, with collaborators at WS Audiology (Denmark), have developed two versions of a new tool, EmpAQ, that assesses how well adults with hearing loss are empowered along their hearing health journey.



Cochlear Ltd

Cochlear Ltd is working with **Ear Science** researchers to promote remote technologies. **Assoc Prof Mel Ferguson** and **Dr Cathy Sucher** are developing a core-outcome set for remote technologies in cochlear implant users, working with national and international collaborators. Dr Cathy Sucher is also developing an online tool to promote the uptake of cochlear implants.



The University of Western Australia

A new affiliation agreement with The University of Western Australia to drive innovation in ear and hearing research was reached. **Ear Science**, through the Centre for Ear Sciences in the Medical School at UWA, will work on joint clinically focused research projects, including further development of ClearDrum® and the relationship between hearing loss, cognitive decline and dementia. With Assoc Professor Cecilia Prêle at the Institute for Respiratory Health at UWA, we are also investigating the role of cochlear fibrosis in cochlear implantation and whether anti-fibrotic drugs can reduce the formation of this scar tissue in the cochlea. This work has been awarded a highly competitive National Health and Medical Research Council's Ideas Grant.



Curtin University

Curtin University

Professor Marcus Atlas was appointed as the inaugural Chair of Translational Ear Science at the Curtin Medical School, Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University. **Ear Science** was awarded a \$50,000 WA Future Health Research & Innovation Fund to co-design a digital intervention to address mental and ear health for Indigenous children. This project commenced with the involvement of Prof Christopher Lawrence, Professor Bronwyn Myers, Professor Aneesh Krishna and Dr Susannah Soon from Curtin's Science and Engineering Faculty.



Lions Eye Institute

With Dr Samuel McLenachan, Dr Livia Carvalho, and Assoc Professor Fred Chen at Lions Eye Institute, **Assoc Prof Hani Al-Salami**, **Dr Elaine Wong** and her team are one step closer to developing personalised therapies for Usher syndrome, the most common form of inherited deaf-blindness, thanks to a prestigious Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grant.



Murdoch University

Professor Steve Wilton at Murdoch University provides his expertise on antisense oligonucleotide design as we work together with Lions Eye Institute to develop treatments for Usher Syndrome.



Busselton Population Medical Research Institute

Ear Science has led the ear and hearing health aspects of research in the Busselton Health Ageing Study since 2010. In 2022 Phase 2 was completed, which saw almost 4,000 Baby Boomers tested and assessed for the second time. Data collected will form the basis for increasing our understanding of hearing loss and how it is associated with many other physical and mental health issues. Key collaborators are Dr Inge Stegeman and Dr Diane Smit, Utrecht Medical Centre, The Netherlands.



Telethon Kids Institute

Dr Filippo Valente and **Dr Huan Ting Ong** are working with several collaborators at Telethon Kids Institute (see case study on page 14 for more details) to establish in vitro biofilm models with specific bacterial strains known to be involved in chronic suppurative otitis media to test the feasibility of drug delivery using silk to disrupt such biofilms.



Harry Perkins Institute

Dr Huan Ting Ong has established a collaboration with Professor Alistair Forrest to identify transcriptomic biomarkers in chronic middle ear diseases.



Oticon/William Demant (Denmark)

Through the **Ear Science** partnership with Curtin University and Oticon (Denmark), **Assoc Professor Mel Ferguson**, **Dr Dona Jayakody** and **Dr David Sly** are working on novel hearing devices to improve diagnostics and auditory training to increase the effectiveness of hearing rehabilitation.



Healthy Hearing Sector Alliance (HHSa)

Ear Science is one of eight founding members of the HHSa tasked with operationalising the Roadmap for Hearing Health 2019. HHSa successfully lobbied the Government to support hearing-related research – resulting in a \$7.2M injection in a Targeted Call for Research through the National Health and Medical Research Council in crucial areas of hearing health care.



CASE STUDY

Inter-organisation research team supported by Telethon to target the high rates of ear disease in children.

Chronic ear disease affects over 330 million primarily children worldwide. In its severest form, chronic suppurative otitis media, the eardrum perforates, and severe complications can result, including hearing loss, brain infections and facial paralysis. There are long-term impacts on educational and social development, for example, the development of speech and language. Permanent hearing loss significantly reduces completing education and gaining employment. Up to 25,000 children in Western Australia are directly affected.

Ear Science researchers collaborate with WA's leading medical research institutions to tackle middle ear disease, one of the most significant health conditions affecting children, especially Indigenous children. Chronic ear disease affects at least 50% of Indigenous Western Australian children in rural and remote communities.

A significant contributing factor to the prevalence of chronic ear infections is the lack of reliable access to treatment and the uncontrolled growth of a biofilm that encapsulates the bacteria, which can hinder the effectiveness of medications and treatments. **Dr Valente** leads a project team that will develop novel biomaterials to deliver and release drugs that target biofilms and was recently awarded a grant from Channel-7 Telethon Trust.

Dr Valente leads the team that includes **Dr Ruth Thornton** and **Associate Professor Anthony Kicic** from Telethon Kids Institute, **Associate Professor Helmy Mulders** and **Dr Barry Kristin** from The University of Western Australia, **Dr Benjamin Allardyce** from Deakin University, as well as **Professor Marcus Atlas**, **Associate Professor Hani Al Salami** and **Dr Huan Ting Ong** from **Ear Science**, Curtin University and UWA.

The bespoke biomaterial has been engineered in our lab to take the form of the eardrum. The biomaterial will interact with surrounding tissues to provide a barrier to infection and a substrate to effectively deliver therapeutic drugs and reduce the incidence and severity of chronic ear infections.

These collaborative efforts build on over 15 years of research and development at **Ear Science** to develop ClearDrum®, a silk-based prosthetic eardrum, and decades-long work at Telethon Kids Institute to understand the nature and cause of chronic ear disease.

The first milestone for this project will be laboratory-based research into the compatibility of existing medications with biomaterials to test how they release drugs. The team will also develop a laboratory model of biofilms to test medications' effectiveness.

This interdisciplinary project encompasses research and expertise in otolaryngology, material science, neuroscience and microbiology.



Competitive Grant Success



The research team continued to excel with a very successful year in competitive grant submissions, totalling \$5.25m in grants to support our Research Strategy for FY22. This figure represents a significant 150% increase compared to FY21 (\$3.5m in FY21).

Dementia and hearing loss

Dr Dona Jayakody secured \$227,872 from the RPH Research Foundation's new Career Advancement Fellowship program to support her research into dementia in older Aboriginal adults.

Fibrosis in cochlear implants

Dr Cecilia Prêle at the Institute for Respiratory Health leads the team awarded a National Health and Medical Research Council's Ideas Grant of \$1.1m to support research into anti-fibrotic drugs for intra-cochlear scar tissue.

Awareness and uptake of cochlear implants

Dr Cathy Sucher was awarded a \$119,000 Researcher Exchange and Development within Industry (REDI) Fellowship to support her research on high-priority medical research projects working with Cochlear Ltd. to improve awareness and uptake of cochlear implants.

NHMRC grants

Assoc Prof Mel Ferguson, Dr Bec Bennett and **Dr Dona Jayakody** were successful as chief investigators in four out of the nine projects funded by the NHMRC Targeted Call for Research for Hearing Healthcare totalling \$2.3m. Assoc Prof Mel Ferguson was awarded \$683,027 for research to improve help-seeking and decision-making to improve uptake of hearing healthcare. Dr Bec Bennett was awarded a \$574,120 NHMRC Investigator Grant to improve psychosocial wellbeing of adults with hearing loss.

Telethon Trust grants

Ear Science was successful in four Channel 7 Telethon Trust grants valued at \$723,323. The grants support the research of **Assoc Professor Hani Al-Salami** into reducing chemotherapy-induced hearing loss in children, **Dr Filippo Valente** to address the significant burden of chronic suppurative otitis media on children, and **Dr Elaine Wong** to support her research into Usher Syndrome - an incurable genetic deaf-blindness disorder with devastating impacts on quality of life. There was also a separate allocation for equipment to support these projects.

Repair and regenerate hearing

Dr Elaine Wong was awarded \$100,000 under the WA Government's Near-Miss Awards for Emerging Mid-Career Leaders. Dr Wong leads the team working on emerging and world-leading research to develop gene therapy to repair and regenerate hearing, utilising nanotechnology to target three essential genes supporting cells in the cochlea.



Driving excellence in research



\$2.3M

raised in the Gift of
Hearing Appeal



ClearDrum®

ClearDrum® Pty Ltd
was established



150%

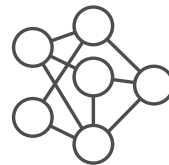
increase in
the value of
research grants



212

participants in
the HearCog
clinical trial

1



of

2

labs to
successfully
grow inner
ear hair cells
with neural
innervation



66

Peer-reviewed
publications



8

Post Graduate, Masters
PhD students

40

active participants
in our Consumer & Community
Involvement (CCI) panels



23

patents
granted



Championing ear & hearing



**AUSTRALIAN
BUSINESS
AWARDS**

Awarded

national award
for Championing
Health in the Telstra
Business Awards



**EAR
SCIENCE®**
Institute Australia



**WHO Collaborating Centre
for Ear and Hearing Care**

4 Years

as a designated World Health
Organization Collaborating Centre
for Ear and Hearing Care



11

Ear Science

team members
on national and
international committees
driving policy change

over
150



team members & volunteers
all dedicated to enhancing
the lives of people with ear
and hearing disorders



Raising awareness of the importance of hearing



392
Hearing Aids
donated to children in
Cambodia and Indonesia

over
5,000
Podcast downloads



167



completed our Online
Hearing Check



257
Free

hearing
screenings

16
Lions



Healthy Hearing Pop-Ups



Optimising client care

over
44,000
calls

to our Hearing &
Tinnitus Advice Line



37,000
hearing appointments

over
4,900 clients

started their healthy
hearing journey with
Lions Hearing Clinic



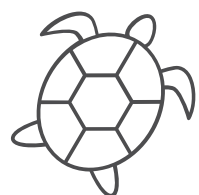
2
new clinics



106
Hearing Implants

148 people

treated by Lions Healthy
Hearing Outback across 5
Pilbara communities



Ear & Hearing Treatments



Did you know that the most significant modifiable risk factor for dementia is the treatment of hearing loss?

Supported by our mission, **Lions Hearing Clinic** and **Ear Science Implant Clinic** continually motivate our clients to make a health change through easy access to all audiological services. As an organisation, we are driven to provide quality hearing care to the people of Western Australia and educate the community on what to expect from quality hearing care.

Lions Hearing Clinic remains the most trusted brand in our community, with solid growth across all major areas of clinical care. It began over 20 years ago in Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and has grown to 18 clinics throughout Perth and the South West – as a valuable asset to **Ear Science** and Western Australia. We opened two new clinics south of the river, increasing accessibility to quality hearing care in our community.

The clinics have seen substantial growth over the last 12 months, with thousands of West Australians fitted with clinically prescribed hearing aids and hearing implants to re-connect them to their world. A highlight of the year was the recruitment of eight Master of Clinical Audiology graduates from the University of Western Australia into the **Lions Hearing Clinic** team.



Bench to bedside

Close integration between **Ear Science's** research and hearing healthcare services enables researchers and clinician-scientists to identify emerging scientific insights and apply these innovations to client care while safely evaluating new approaches to preventing, diagnosing and treating hearing loss.

As a medical research institute, the clinics provide clinical services based on the latest evidence. This means we continuously improve our practice based on the latest research. Additionally, clinical needs inform new research being conducted at **Ear Science**.

Patient-focused hearing care

The **Lions Hearing Clinic** team spent a month living in their clients' shoes as they trialled a new range of hearing devices that improve health beyond hearing. The STEP-tember challenge encouraged our audiologist and administration team to wear the new Phonak Fit devices for the month. Over the month, everyone tracked their steps and activity and kept a diary of their experience, with some surprising results.

This activity has helped the team provide client-focused hearing care with a new level of understanding they can apply in the clinic.

Hearing client's mental well-being

Dr Bec Bennet's clinician tools were implemented to support our client's mental well-being.

Teleaudiology

A systematic review paper by **Adj Professor Rob Eikelboom, Dr Bec Bennett** and **Ms Maddison Brennan** was used in a working group of Audiology Australia, led by **Dr Bec Bennett**, to develop Teleaudiology Guidelines for hearing healthcare practitioners.

Teleaudiology will continue to grow as an important and viable method for delivering hearing healthcare services across Australia.



CLIENT STORY

My cochlear implant helps me hear my family



“I couldn’t hear the children in the classroom or answer their questions”

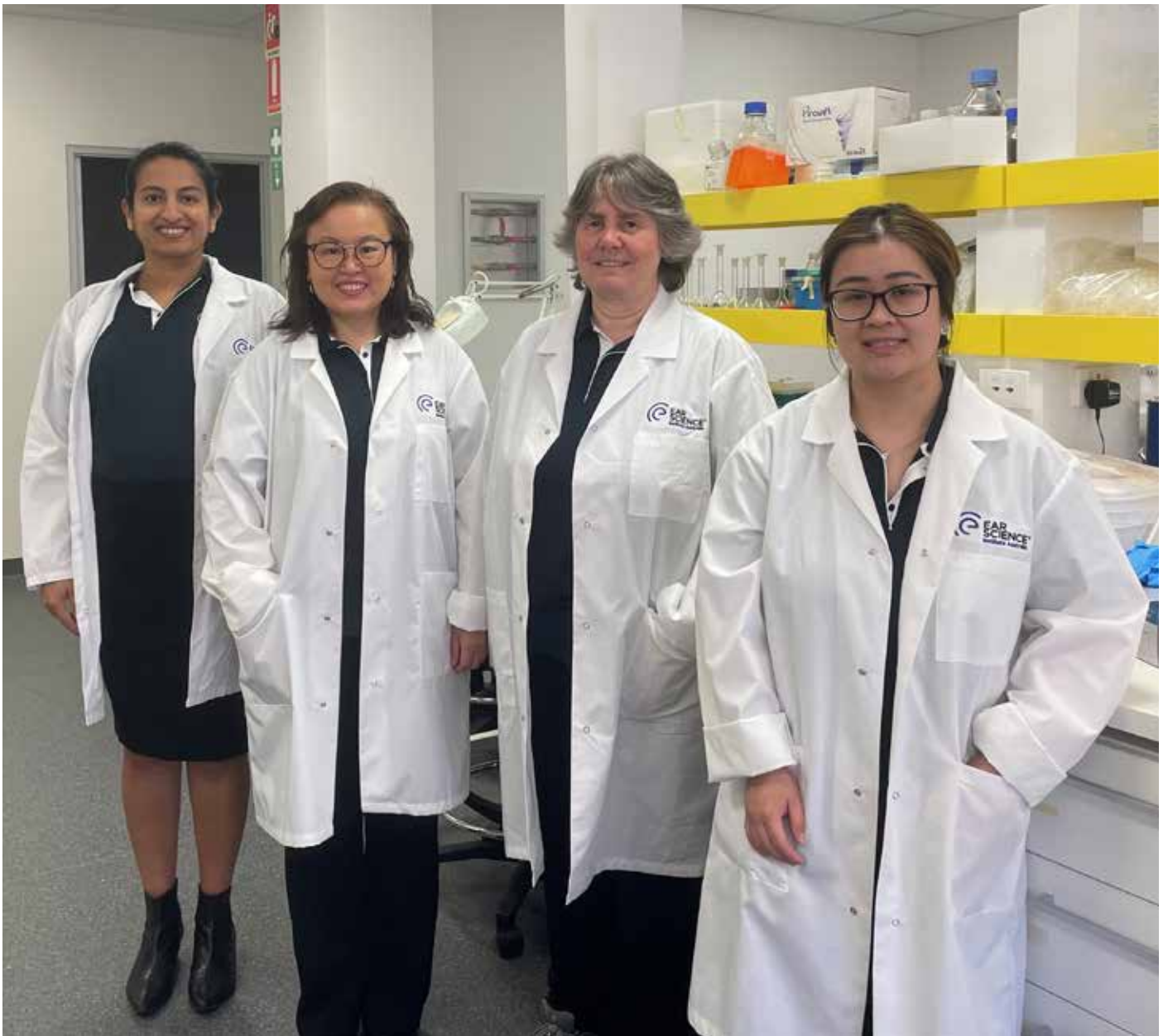
Russell first recognised his hearing loss when he used the telephone one day at work. Being able to hear was essential for the work that Russell did. His job involved a lot of communicating with teachers, educators and educational administrators both in person and over the phone. As a result, Russell got hearing aids to improve his hearing.

Hearing aids helped Russell for many years, but he needed something more as his hearing gradually worsened. Russell was working at a university, supervising doctoral students and giving lectures. Russell’s hearing aids were not giving him the clarity he needed to perform his duties; he needed something else to improve his hearing and quality of life.

For Russell, a cochlear implant was the answer.

Russell’s cochlear implant gave him back his hearing and a good part of his life. Because of his cochlear implant, he could continue his academic work at university, attend academic conferences, and get his social life back.

“If it weren’t for my cochlear implant, I wouldn’t be able to hear and converse with my wife, children, grandchildren, and others socially.”



Ear & Hearing Awareness & Education



The Science of Healthy Hearing Podcast

Our commitment to increasing awareness of the impact of hearing loss continued with the launch of [The Science of Healthy Hearing Podcast](#) to celebrate World Hearing Day in March 2022. Along with our Ambassador **Justin Langer AM**, we enlisted Senator Dorinda Cox to help spread the word on healthy hearing. Senator Cox has lived experience with hearing loss, and as a proud Yamaji woman, she helped us spread the word about our [Healthy Hearing Champion Pledge](#).



Lions Healthy Hearing Outback

Our **Lions Healthy Hearing Outback** team showed resilience and agility in delivering outreach services to remote Aboriginal communities in the Pilbara region. Despite the COVID-induced travel issues, we spent 13 days across five communities (Newman, Jigalong, Punmu, Parnngurr and Kunawarritji), supporting the ear and hearing health of the Martu and Nyiyaparli people.

Thanks to the generous support of the **Gift of Hearing Appeal**, the **Lions Healthy Hearing Outback** team delivered two Soundfield Systems to the RAWA Community School's Punmu and Kunawarritji campuses. These systems are used in the classrooms to amplify the teacher's voice, making it easier for students with hearing loss to hear and learn.



Up to 9 in 10 Aboriginal children in remote areas experience serious middle ear infections that can cause hearing loss.

Lions Healthy Hearing Pop-Up

The **Lions Healthy Hearing Pop-Ups** are run in collaboration with the Lions Hearing Foundation to improve access to quality hearing care in our community. Each event focuses on promoting healthy hearing and offering hearing tests to individuals in the community. At 16 pop-ups in Perth and the South West, we tested 257 Western Australians and gave away over 3,700 Lions Healthy Hearing goodie bags.





Cochlear Implant awareness campaign

We championed public awareness by educating our community on cochlear implant technology:

Your hearing won't heal itself, but we can help. Could a cochlear implant be right for you?

We know that hearing aids help many people, but as hearing loss progresses, a hearing implant can give people the clarity and volume needed to understand speech again. With about 90% of people who need a cochlear implant not getting one, this campaign aimed to raise awareness of this life-changing technology that has the power to restore hearing.

Our successful self-funded public health campaign has contributed to a groundswell of enquires for this technology as we strive to increase the number of people getting access to this technology. As WA's largest private hearing implant program, we had over 100 clients implanted in 2022.

Ear and hearing education

With about 10% of people who could benefit from a cochlear implant having one, we provided ongoing in-person and digital education and training to support clinicians in maintaining clinical excellence and optimised hearing care for all clients. Audiologists were able to ask some of Western Australia's most influential researchers questions about their published scientific articles, supporting them to apply these learnings to their clinical practice.

Medical Student Training started to return to normal with two sessions delivered online to Notre Dame University 1st and 2nd Year students and an in-person lecture and workshop series for students at Curtin University. **Jordan Bishop** gave an engaging Online Webinar for all GP Registrars in WA for WAGPET on The Role of the GP in Hearing Health.

Gift of Hearing

Ear Science's annual **Gift of Hearing appeal** raised over \$2.3m in cash and in-kind to support our research and the provision of hearing devices for those that cannot access the treatment they need for FY22.

Ear Science has many new and ongoing projects and programs, and the financial support we receive is crucial to driving our medical research, education and training. We are very grateful to all our private individual donors and the following partners and organisations who supported us in finding new treatments for today and cures for tomorrow in 2022.



Channel 7 Telethon Trust

McCusker Charitable Foundation

The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation

Ian Potter Foundation

Wheatley Family Foundation

The Lions Hearing
Foundation

Phoenix Motors

WA Future Health Research &
Innovation Fund

Our Supporters

Principal

Jim Litis
John and Debbie Schaffer & Family
Schaffer Corporation Limited
Wheatley Family Foundation
Lions Hearing Foundation of WA
McCusker Charitable Foundation
The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
Ian and Jillian Green
David and Patty van der Walt
Greg and Nicolet King
Sonova - Phonak & Unitron
Cochlear Limited
Minter Ellison
Oticon & Oticon Medical
George Jones Family Foundation
Barbara O'Connor
Channel 7 Telethon Trust
Judith Arnold
Luke Saraceni - Saracen Properties
Roy Hill
Pheonix Motors
The Ian Potter Foundation
The Ron and Peggy Bell Family Legacy
The Sarich Family
WA Future Health Research & Innovation Fund

Patron

Darryl and Heather Smalley
Erceg Management
Jamie and Silvana Pasqua
Victor and Deborah Tana - Parker & Co
Chris, Anthea and Chantelle Somas
The Schwartz Family
Willy and Mimi Packer
Wrays
Paul and Jenny Simpson - Simpson Estate

MED-EL Implant Systems Australasia
Theodore and Diane Kailis
Mark and Cate Hohnen
Philip and Janine Fisher
Jandakot Airport
Louise and Bryant Macfie
Gift of Hearing Swim Team
Brinkhaus Jewellers
Jamie and Eileen Cullen
Stephen and Janine Lauder
Kim and Anna Brotherson
Ian and Susan Trahar
Evangelos and Despo Litis
Tony and Gwenyth Lennon
Adrian and Michela Fini
Brightside Live
The Marchese Family
Automotive Holdings Group
Greg Poland - Strzelecki Group
Haniff Kassim - Auzcorp Group
Tony and Milvia Poli
Rob and Barbara Gordon
Brian and Jill Stinson
Harry and Rebe Atlas
Aaron and Joanne Constantine
Paul and Alexandra Kotsoglo
Emirates
Advanced Bionics
Automotive Properties Pty Ltd
GN ReSound
Ivan and Kathleen Humich
Lister Gallery
Nicolas Theodorus Maria Bakker
Pacific Hotels Group
Paul Blackburn
Peter King and Jill Hoad
Rekram Holdings Pty Ltd
Santos
Widex

Partners

John and Linda Bond
Robert Martin
AMA (WA)
Craig and Cora Carter
Delta Corporation
Ian Doubikin - Cooktown Constructions
Wilson Parking
Anthony and Rosemary Packer
Cockburn Cement
The Carcione Foundation
Carl and Mia Filpo - CM Technology Group
Danielle and Nicholas Blain
Hanson Construction Materials
Marcus Atlas & Family
Maura and Frank Cooper
Paul Santillo - Santillo Engineering
Australian Diamond Tools
John and Gianna Norrish - Hartwood Logistics
Knight Frank Australia
Urbanstone
Barry and Adrienne Marshall
Colliers International
Emanuel and Luisa Dillon - Complete Solutions
Peter Abery
West to West - Michael and Laurie O'Sullivan
Brett Robertson & Family
Bryant Stokes
Civcon Civil and Project Management
Cunderdin Lions Club
Marcus Rosenwax and Kay Cohen
Michael and Jenny Falconer
Orba Travel Brokers
Perth Rigging Company
polyVISUAL
Ben Tana - HT Cleaning Services
Bowen Foundation

... Partners

Cox Architects
Cummins South Pacific
Ear Science Institute Australia Staff
Gatecrasher Agency Perth
Urbanstone
Hossean and Jenny Pourzand
John and Joanne Driscoll
K P Electric Australia
Kailis Jewellery
Osboine Family
Perth Airport
Peter Hodge
Roger and Christine Davies
Shaws Cartage Contractors
Superline
The Joint Studio
Warren Ford and Quadrant Energy
Zac Pearson Legacy Fund - Todd and Alisa Pearson
Arthur Litis Nominees
Atlas D'Aloisio Foundation
Aurizon
Australian Reinforcing Company
Bateman Architects
Beck Advisory
Built Environs
Capital Recycling
CDM Australia
Cesare and Elvira Scalise
Clive Donner
DesignStruct
Dev and Sandra Nair
Doolan's Heavy Haulage
Elton and Chevaunne Swarts
Energy-Tec - Damien Moran
Guy Le Page
Hales Family
Hartley Charity Committee
HBF
HFM Asset Management - Ian Knox

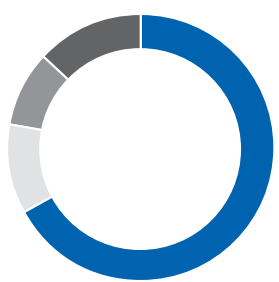
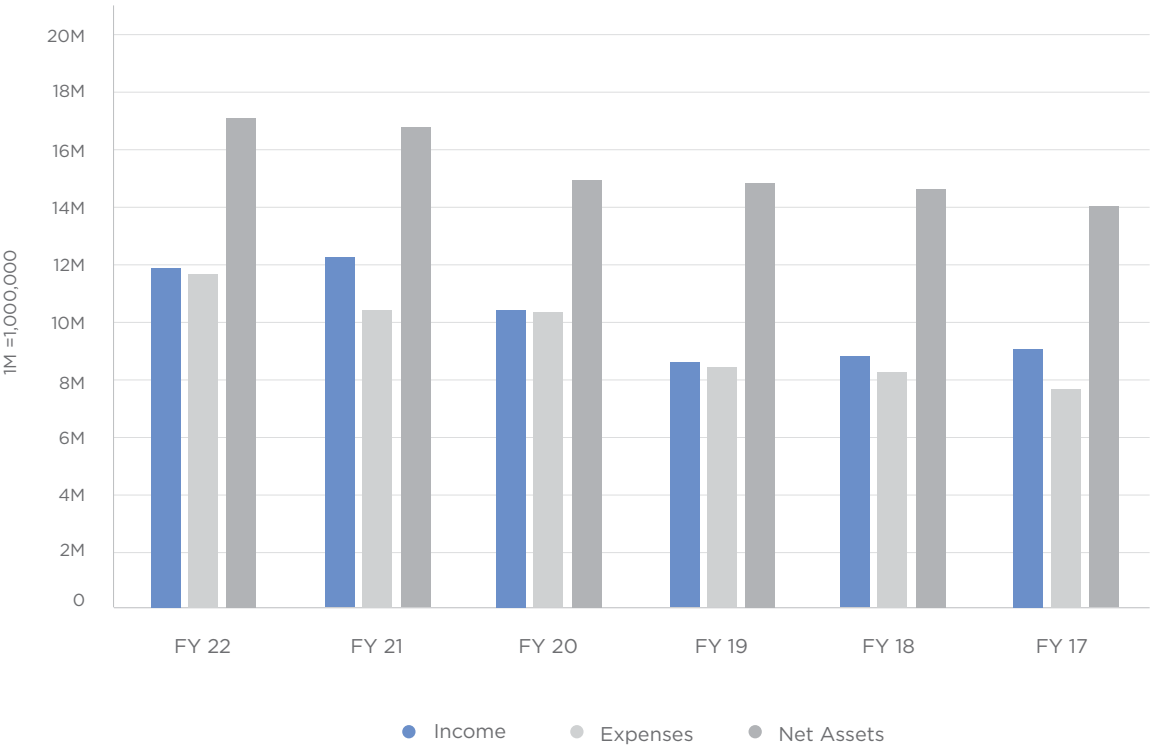
Impala Plastics
Industrial People
Jailaw Pty Ltd
James and Meredith McClements
Janet and Michael Dillon
John and Angela Separovich
Kevin and Sally Luttrell
Kudos Creative
Lisa Hando
Michelle Prater
Neil Durston
Nova Entertainment
One Construction (WA)
PCF Capital Group
Peter Hunt
Pioneer Credit
RM Capital
Russell and Tamara Gibbs - Hawaiian
Sarah Palermo - Simon Lee Foundation
Silvestro Family
Singapore Airlines
Sterling Cooper Collective
Tim Cooper and Family
Tom and Liz Perrott
Westpac

Pink

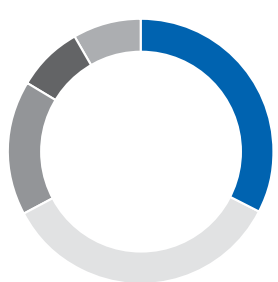
John Harris - International Financing & Investment Pty Ltd
Matt and Josie Perrella
Jack Hartley
Todd and Julia Schaffer
Ian and Sarah Beacham
Ilana Atlas
Jason and Justine Walsh
Julie Harris
Mandurah Murray Mayday Inc
Mike Litis
Robert Branchi
Justin and Sue Langer
Paspaley
Peter and Fiona Agostino
Robert Pierce
Alistair and Racheal Martin
Chris and Stephanie Gale
Ian and Susie Lowther
Ian Mitchell
Lions Club of Cowaramup
Lions Club of Girrawheen
Longreach Media
Mark Turner
M Events
Marcia Miller
Martin and Tracey Blake
Nigel and Dorothy Gallop
Paul and Jenene Figliomeni
Peter and Donna Millington
Sarah Harlock
Sue Fletcher
Tenille Bentley
Utah State University

Financials

Financial Summary for Ear Science Institute Australia for the financial year ending 30 June 2022



- Gross surplus from Clinic Services
- Gift of hearing fundraising, donations and sponsorship
- Rental income
- Research other grants
- Interest, dividends and other income



- Research Expenses
- Rent, Right of Use and variable outgoings
- Office & geneal expenses
- Administration Salary & Wages
- Depreciation and Amortisation
- Interest and Finance Costs

Our People

The Board of Directors & the Executive Leadership team is committed to representing our stakeholders and community. We are guiding **Ear Science Institute Australia** in the pursuit of our mission.

Board of Trustees



Marcus Atlas AM



George Jones AM



John Schaffer AM

Board of Directors



Rob Gordon,
Chairman



Marcus Atlas AM



Sandra Bellekom



John Schaffer AM



Peter Millington



Jamie Cullen



Liddy McCall

Executive Leadership Team



Sandra Bellekom,
Chief Executive
Officer



Andrew Sturke,
Chief Financial
Officer



David Sly, Chief
Operating Officer-
Research



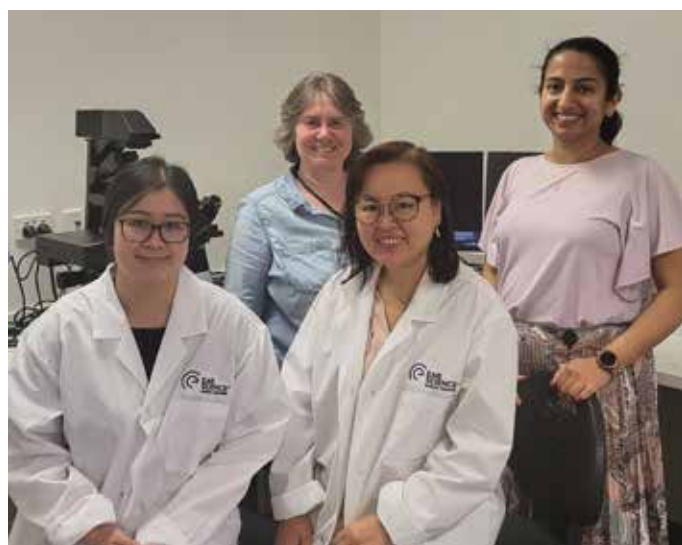
Lize Coetzee, Chief
Operating Officer-
Clinical Services

Team Ear Science



Aliaga, Jerome	Courtney, Anne
Allan, Tracy	Crawford, Libby
Al-Salami, Hani	Cumming-Potvin, Elise
Amat, Farah	Dale, Seana
Appaiah Konganda, Shivali	Day, Sue
Atlas, Marcus	Degerholm, Kim
Barry, Kristin	Delaney, Derek
Bellekom, Sandra	Devlin, Katherine
Benatar, Sasha-Lee	Dill, Larissa
Bennett, Rebecca	Donaldson, Sara
Bester, Christo	Dorsheimer, Ina
Bishop, Jordan	Doyle, Emma
Bollen, Natalie	Earle, Anthony
Bothe, Ellen	Eastwood, Ferdinand
Bowden, Diane	Eikelboom, Rob
Bramich-Smith, Trish	Fanning, Caroline
Brandreth, Hayley	Ferguson, Melanie
Brennan, Maddison	Fermaner, Vicki
Chandler, Bianca	Ferreira, Devon
Chester-Browne, Ronel	Foggo, Tabitha
Chiu, Li Shan	Foy, Blanche
Chivell, Kayla	French, Jody
Coetzee, Lize	Galiffe, Antoinette
Cohen, Julia	Gerace, Daniel
Cohen, Steffanie	Giacovazzi, Clarisse
Comiskey, Philippa	Glasgow, Sarah
Connor, Tara	Gould, Samantha
Conte, Corinna	Habsari, Quartika

Heinze, Barbara	Lake, Benjamin
Hensman, Dayle	Lee, Sin Huey
Herbert, Julie	Lee, Sin Jie
Hewkins, Michelle	Liew, Angela
Hile, Jesse-Taylah	Liew, Lawrence
Howell, Sarah	Lim, Siew-Moon
Howting, Denise	Little, Jessica
Htwe, Su Su	Lowrie, Kristie
Ireland, Emma	Lucia, Janni-Marei
Jayakody, Dona	Lye, Joey
Jeffery, Chloe	Marshall, Emma
Johns, Debbie	Mathur, Ishita
Joyce, Lauren	Mattaboni, Sarah
Judd, Cayla	May, Kathryn
Kania, Anna	McHarrie, William
Kekez, Damir	McIlhiney, Paul
Kelsall-Foreman, India	McLetchie, Kellie
Knight, Jacinta	McMahen, Courtney
Krieg, Joanna	Mead, Cameron
Laird, Emma	Menegola, Holly





Millington, Peter
 Moore, Nikola
 Morgan, Michelle
 Moyle, Selina
 Musgrave, Rachel
 Naake, Tania
 Naidoo, Ashton
 Nairn, Pia
 Nakano, Kento
 Nathan, Kimberly
 Nguyen, Thi Ngoc Minh
 Nickbakht, Mansoureh
 Noone, Caitlin
 O'Neil, Amy
 O'Sullivan Stout, Katie
 Ong, Huan Ting
 Pan, Samantha
 Patel, Parita
 Peou, Andrew
 Petryszyn, Sarah
 Punnen, Riya
 Putland, Ellen
 Randall, Elisha
 Rattray, Julie
 Ravlic, Gillian
 Redmond, Sharon
 Rees, Lindsay
 Revindran, Prasanna
 Rocher, Liz
 Russell, Rebecca
 Sabatini, Lauren

Sandells, Sharon
 Santoso, Nita
 Sardesai, Varda
 Sly, David
 Soo, Jeremiah
 Statham, Elle
 Strachan, Brandi
 Sturcke, Andrew
 Sucher, Cathy
 Susilo, Florentia
 Tan, Abigail
 Thompson, James
 Tran, Anita
 Ubalde, Mya
 Upson, Ben
 Valente, Ciara
 Valente, Filippo
 van Aswegen, Roan
 Waumsley, Carmine
 Weekley, Laura
 Wheeler, Tess
 Whelpdale, Jacqueline
 Williams, Jaclyn
 Wilson, Kyrstie
 Wong, Yee Man Elaine
 Woodman, Alexandra
 Yiannos, Jessica
 Yong, Emily
 Youngman, Paula
 Zimmermann, Matthew





Contact Ear Science for information on our research, to donate, or to start your healthy hearing journey.

1800 054 667 | enquiries@earscience.org.au | www.earscience.org.au

Perth

Western Australia

ABN 48 804 903 003



Ear Science Institute Australia respects all ways of communication.

