

# BEYOND PICU

PICOLO Network's quarterly newsletter



## ALI FERGUSON

Alexandra (Ali) Ferguson is an advanced physiotherapist who has worked in Paediatric Intensive Care for over 15 years. Ali is the Allied Health lead for implementation of the PICU Liberation strategy at Queensland Children's Hospital (QCH) and led the development and implementation of the Early Mobilisation rehabilitation program in PICU at QCH. In 2018 Ali developed the Children's Chelsea Critical Care Physical Assessment tool, (cCPAx) which is a tool specifically to measure physical strength and function of children in critical care. Ali also has a strong interest in education and is a subject matter expert and coordinator of the

Simulated Learning In Paediatric Allied Health (SLiPAH) program delivered Statewide to universities and regional healthcare districts by the Children's Health Queensland physiotherapy department. Ali is an Associate Lecturer at the University of Queensland, and a member of the World Federation of Paediatric Intensive and Critical Care Society (WIFPICCS) Allied Health, World PICU Awareness and Scientific committees.

Read Ali's latest blog post "PICU Liberation" [Here](#) where Ali tells us about the holistic care approach that has been running in the PICU at Queensland Children's Hospital for the last 2 years.

## JESS MINOGUE

Jessicah is a Registered Nurse/Midwife and MPhil Candidate. As a novice clinician and researcher, Jessicah is currently undertaking her Master of Philosophy candidature at Queensland University of Technology. Jessicah's MPhil project 'Long Term Outcomes After Pediatric Sepsis - LOTUS Study' is aiming to explore the long-term morbidities associated with sepsis survivorship.

Jessicah has also begun to establish herself within the team at the Queensland Children's Hospital as a Research Nurse completing long-term follow up in numerous clinical trials in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.



lotus.



Long-term Follow-up  
after Sepsis

## LOTUS STUDY

### Long Term Outcomes After Pediatric Sepsis – LOTUS Study Project

More children are surviving sepsis than ever before. These survival rates have seen an increase in problems at discharge often referred to as ‘morbidity’ including limb amputations, loss of hearing and emotional distress. However, the long-term impacts of children surviving sepsis are yet to be understood.

Appreciating that a child’s admission to hospital can impact not only the child themselves but also their family, the LOTUS study aims to incorporate this idea to better understand the long-term outcomes of children now surviving sepsis and the influence this may have on their families too. Focussing on areas that have been identified in other long-term research such as physical, cognitive, social and emotional health; caregivers of children treated for severe sepsis and septic shock in Queensland will be invited to complete an online survey addressing these interest areas. With a key interest understanding if sepsis impacts the behaviours that enable a child to best excel in their environment (adaptive behaviour) it is hoped from this study, a better collective understanding of long-term impacts associated with sepsis survivorship can be identified. In doing this, we hope to understand these issues so we can be better prepared in providing care and support to you, your child and your family to facilitate a better transition home and into the future.

#### Research team:

Jessicah Minogue RN RM MPhil Candidate

QUT Primary Supervisor: A/Prof. Debbie Long (Faculty of Health/ School of Nursing)

QUT Associate Supervisor: Prof. Samantha Keogh (Faculty of Health/ School of Nursing)

External Supervisor: Prof. Luregn Schlapbach (University of Zurich)

## BLOG POST

### "Sepsis"

By Jessicah Minogue, RN RM MPhil Candidate.

In her blog, Jessicah gives us an insight into long term outcomes after sepsis for paediatric intensive care survivors and their families. You can read the full article [here](#)

