

# Newsletter June 2022

Kia ora and welcome to our June newsletter.

We're proud to invite you to our biggest research showcase of the year, Brain Health Matters. This year we're featuring seven amazing research projects ranging from the innovative use of Artificial Intelligence in the assessment of Parkinson's disease, to the results of our research into the health outcomes of New Zealanders with multiple sclerosis. The evening culminates with internationally renowned Professor Tim Anderson outlining a new world-wide drug trial available to people in Canterbury at risk of future Alzheimer's dementia.

All our researchers will be available to answer your questions on the night, and we look forward to seeing you there.

We hope you are staying safe and well and thank you for supporting brain research in Canterbury.

## FREE PUBLIC EVENT

When: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Time: 5.30pm - 7.00pm Refreshments from 5pm, talks start at 5.30pm

Where: Manawa Foyer, 276 Antigua St



# **Registrations Essential**

#### **Evolving concepts in Young Onset Dementia**

Dr Campbell Le Heron will discuss dementia, focusing on challenges associated with Young Onset Dementia and our evolving understanding of what causes these brain disorders.

### Assessing Parkinson's through an artificial lens

Ethan Marshall will discuss the current gold standard for Parkinson's assessment, and how we can build upon it using new artificial intelligence motion capture techniques.

#### Parkinson's by numbers

Dr Toni Pitcher will discuss what we know about Parkinson's in New Zealand and will introduce our project aimed at establishing the causes of Parkinson's in New Zealand.

#### Swallowing - something to chew on

Dr Sarah Perry will talk about how swallowing changes with ageing as well as following brain disease, and why coughing is not always a bad thing.

#### Functional Brain Imaging

Dr Reza Shoorangiz will discuss what we can obtain from functional brain imaging and how this is used at the New Zealand Brain Research Institute to investigate Parkinson's disease.

#### Multiple sclerosis - How do we measure success

Dr Deborah Mason will speak about epidemiological studies done recently in NZ and how they allow us to measure health outcomes for people with MS. These results will hopefully play a role in improving life expectancy in MS patients through better care and access to resources.

#### Can we prevent Alzheimer's dementia?

Professor Tim Anderson will outline a new world-wide drug trial available to people in Canterbury aged 60 to 80 years of age with normal memory and thinking but at risk of future Alzheimer's dementia.

# Register Here for Brain Health Matter

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Stay safe Ngā mihi

The New Zealand Brain Research Institute Team







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