



NGĀ MOMO WHARA KA TUKINOHIA TE RORO, ME ĀNA HUA, I NGĀ HAPORI O AOTEAROA

# BiONiC

Brain Injury Outcomes New Zealand In the Community

Issue 9

March 2012

This study is proudly funded by



## BiONiC Study Update

### This Issue:

Many of you would have known our colleague Te Hau Kirkwood who passed away suddenly in January. Te Hau was a valued member of the BiONiC team who had been with us from the start of the study. He provided important cultural specific advice to our group and liaised with many community groups. His supportive, happy presence is greatly missed.

### BIONiC Study update

Follow up assessments are drawing to a close with the final assessments taking place in March. We continue to collect incidence data through cross checks from a range of sources. In December we appointed two new Clinical Researchers, Rebecca Bunn and Marietjie Janse van Vuuren to assist with these cross checks. This is also keeping our staff, working at Waikato Hospital, very busy. We thank the GP's too for continuing to supply medical information when necessary.

### Data Lock

A clinical researcher on leave, Catherine Donaldson (nee Taylor), had a beautiful baby girl in February. Congratulations!

### Cross check update

## Sub-studies Update

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### Genetics

### TBI Experience

### Cross check update

BIONiC participants have been located through:

- Waikato Hospital
- Other Hospitals
- A & E clinics
- GP's
- Physiotherapists
- Rest Homes
- ACC records
- Ministry of Health
- Coroners Office
- Schools
- Sports Clubs
- Self referral

We have captured some participants through several sources and continue to check that we have recorded ALL incidents of TBI in the Hamilton and Waikato District between 1/3/10 and 28/2/11

The COBIC study assesses BiONiC children with history of TBI, their parents and teachers. An enthusiastic comparison group (similar ages, no history of TBI) has also been recruited and are being assessed. As part of this study, the researchers can give valuable feedback and support to participants and their families and teachers.

This research is being led by Dr Nicola Starkey (University of Waikato)

The Genetics sub-study continues to have a high consent rate.

To date, **160** saliva samples have been collected from BIONiC participants. These samples are sent to Auckland for analysis and have the potential to make a significant contribution to future research into brain injury

This research is being led by Professor Rob Kydd (University of Auckland)

We have interviewed 34 people about their experience of recovery and adaptation following TBI. We are interviewing at 6, 12 and 24 months post injury to explore the different impacts of TBI on people's lives. We aim to identify the outcomes that matter most and the strategies that support the individuals and their family/whanau to manage following disabling TBI. We are actively seeking individuals who have had a TBI in the last 4-9 months who live in the Auckland or Waikato region. If you would like further information about the study please call 800 AUT TBI (0800 288 824)

This research is being led by Professor Kathryn McPherson (AUT University)

## DATA LOCK

We are now ensuring all paperwork is complete and entered into the study database. In-house checks will also continue to ensure study data is of the highest quality.

**DATA LOCK is scheduled for May 31st 2012**

We are all looking forward to letting you know preliminary study findings, and final study outcomes concerning TBI incidence and recovery.

Contact Information

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