

Trailblazing former *MJA* editor dies



Professor Priscilla Kincaid-Smith, former acting editor of the *Medical Journal of Australia*, and a trailblazer for Australian female scientists, has died at her Melbourne home from complications following a stroke, the **ABC** reports. She was 88. Professor Kincaid-Smith was a world-renowned nephrologist, discovering the link between overuse of headache powders and kidney disease. She was the first female professor at the University of Melbourne in 1975, first

female chair of the Royal Australian College of Physicians, first female chair of the Australian Medical Association and the first female — and first Australian — chair of the World Medical Association. She was acting editor of the *MJA* in 1995. A full obituary will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *MJA*.

Social media use linked to teens' mental health

A new Canadian study has found that teenagers who use social media sites for two hours or more each day are significantly more likely to suffer from poor mental health, psychological distress and suicidal thoughts, the **Huffington Post** reports. "It could be that teens with mental health problems are seeking out interactions as they are feeling isolated and alone," Dr Hugues Sampasa-Kanyinga, the lead author of the Ottawa Public Health study, wrote. "Or they would like to satisfy unmet needs for face-to-face mental health support." The solution, he suggested, was not to get teens off social media. "Since teens are on the sites, it is the perfect place for public health and service providers to reach out and connect with this vulnerable population and provide health promotion systems and supports."



Nominations open for 2015 ACHS Medal



Nominations for the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards 2015 ACHS Medal are now open. The award recognises outstanding achievement in the advancement of quality and safety in health care in Australia. "The ACHS Medal provides an opportunity to further promote the work of an individual who has made a strong contribution in their particular field in

health, by highlighting the improvements being made in safety and quality," ACHS Chief Executive Officer, Dr Christine Dennis, said. Recent recipients of the medal include Kae Martin (2014); Adjunct Professor Christopher Brook PSM (2013); and Professor Robert "Bob" Gibberd (2012). The closing date for nominations is 5pm, Friday 25 September, and the nomination form can be found at www.achs.org.au/ACHSMedal

Top Canadian pathologist steps down



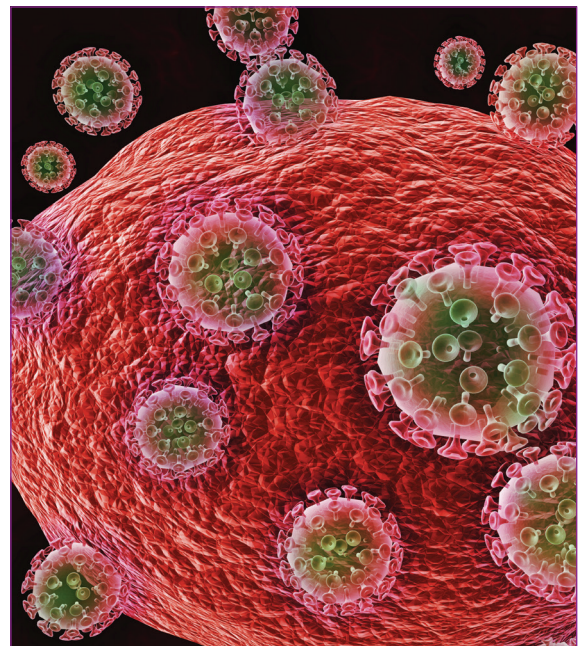
Retraction Watch reports that prominent pathologist Dr Sylvia Asa has resigned from running the largest hospital diagnostic laboratory in Canada because of an investigation that uncovered evidence of falsified data in two papers.

Dr Asa was the program medical director of the Laboratory Medicine Program at the University Health Network, affiliated with the University of Toronto. Two papers coauthored by Dr Asa have been retracted by the American Journal of Pathology. "Following correspondence in September 2012 from a concerned reader ... [an investigative committee] informed the Editors in April 2015 that the articles in question contain falsified data", the AJP editors said. Problems included "manipulated and/or fabricated data".

Transgender women show "shocking" HIV rates

A World Health Organisation report shows that a transgender woman was 49 times more likely to be living with HIV [than the general population] in 15 countries in which data was analysed, **NPR** reports. Transgender people are not receiving adequate health care, and widespread discrimination is largely to blame, according to the WHO paper. Among sex workers, transgender women are nine times more likely to have HIV than their non-transgender counterparts. "What is driving the epidemic is really the refusal of governments to pass legislation that allows [transgendered people] to function in society, and allows them to participate in the workplace", JoAnne Keatley, a coauthor of the WHO report, said. "Trans people struggle in order to obtain identity documents that allow them to participate in the workforce. Many trans people are not able to obtain health coverage."

Cate Swannell doi:10.5694/mja15.n0817





A medic inspects damage as blood stains are seen on the floor of a damaged hospital in the town of Tel al-Shehab, Syria, after barrel bombs dropped by forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad fell nearby.

Picture: Alaa Al-Faqir/Reuters/Picture Media

Top 5 *MJA* articles online since 6 July 2015

1) *Perspective*: State-based legal requirement for Schedule 8 prescriptions: why so complicated?

Inconsistent prescription requirements between Australian states and territories create unnecessary complexity for health professionals

doi: 10.5694/mja14.01587

2) *Research*: The crux of the matter: did the ABC's Catalyst program change statin use in Australia?

doi: 10.5694/mja15.00103

3) *Perspective*: Medical cannabis: time for clear thinking

doi: 10.5694/mja14.01573

4) *Clinical focus*: Acute pancreatitis: update on management

doi: 10.5694/mja14.01333

5) *Perspective*: The scourge of managerialism and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians

doi: 10.5694/mja15.00170

Meanwhile, in *MJA InSight* ...

Be alert for Lyme disease

WHILE debate over the existence of Lyme disease in Australia continues, experts agree on the importance of GPs being alert to the disease in patients who have travelled overseas.

<https://www.mja.com.au/insight/2015/25/be-alert-lyme-disease>

Calls for cannabis trials grow

<https://www.mja.com.au/insight/2015/24/calls-cannabis-trials-grow>

Michael Gliksman: an abhorrent Act

<https://www.mja.com.au/insight/2015/22/michael-gliksman-abhorrent-act>

New focus on chronic fatigue

<https://www.mja.com.au/insight/2015/23/new-focus-chronic-fatigue>

Prenatal tests challenge ethics

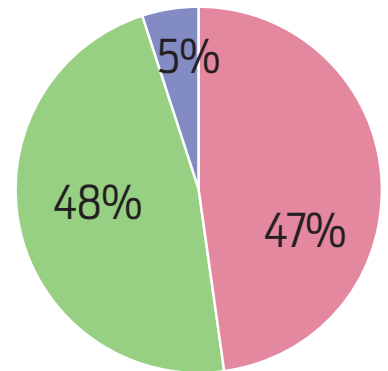
<https://www.mja.com.au/insight/2015/27/prenatal-tests-challenge-ethics>

MJA InSight Poll

Should doctors always offer assistance in an emergency?

Total respondents: 152

- Yes – it's an ethical duty
- Maybe – depends on circumstances
- No – only if asked



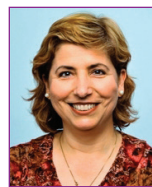
Take part in next week's poll on: www.mja.com.au/insight

MJA Podcast



Rosie Batty

Rosie Batty, the 2015 Australian of the Year, talks about the role doctors must play in the campaign against domestic violence. "Family violence is an entrenched epidemic that we've lived with since time began, so we've got a long way to go. But I do believe the tide has turned. It's no longer a subject that only occurs behind closed doors."



Dr Anastasia Mihailidou

Dr Anastasia Mihailidou, from Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney, is the co-author of a short report published in this issue, entitled "Impact of grief delivered via media technology", describing the effect on blood pressure of watching Phil Hughes' funeral.

Podcasts are available at www.mja.com.au/multimedia/podcasts and from iTunes. Also available as videos at www.mja.com.au/multimedia