



IAGG Global Research Network on Health & Ageing Questionnaire for selection process

Name of the Centre: **Australian Institute for Musculoskeletal Sciences (AIMSS)**
Key Investigator / Head of Department: **Prof. Gustavo Duque**
Phone: **+61383958121**
E-mail: **gustavo.duque@unimelb.edu.au**

Description of the Centre:

a) Type of investigations:

- Basic Science / Fundamental
- Clinical Research
- Health Services Research
- Epidemiologic/Public Health Research
- Other

b) Themes investigated (please specify):

- Dementia
- Frailty
- Sarcopenia
- Other Neurodegenerative Disorders
- Geriatric Disorders
- Cardiovascular Risk Factors
- Metabolism
- Ageing research
- Genetics
- Gerontechnology
- Other

c) Number of investigators in ongoing positions:

- Less than 5
- to 10
- More than 10

d) Number of investigators funded by specific projects:

- 1 to 3
- 4 to 5
- More than 5

e) Does your Centre have a:

- Clinical affiliation
- Academic affiliation

f) Does your Centre have a basic sciences program? (Please specify topic)

- Yes **Osteoporosis, stem cells, sarcopenia, pharmacology.**
- No

If your Centre is affiliated to a Geriatric Department, please provide the following information:

a) Types of units:

- Acute Ward - **Number of beds: 86**
- Outpatient Ward - **Number of patients/year: 2500**
- Community Care Unit - **Number of visits/year: 3500**

- Day Hospital - **Number of places/day: 0**
- Geriatric Rehabilitation Unit - **Number of beds: 30**
- Long-Term Care - **Number of beds: 0**
- Special Units (stroke, memory, ortho-geriatric, psycho-geriatric) - **Number of beds: 15**

b) Number of staff in the Department:

Geriatric: **12**
 Gerontology: **20**
 Other: **0**

c) Does the Day Hospital have specialist services?

- Dementia / Memory
- Cardiovascular clinic
- Rehabilitation
- Falls assessment clinic
- Parkinson's disease clinic
- Other

d) Does your Geriatric Department already cooperate with supervising clinical trials?

- Yes
- No

Management of the Centre:

a) Is your Centre an existing national or government recognized medical research Centre?

- Yes
- No

b) Does the Centre receive funded grants? (Please specify source)

- Yes **Australian National Health and Medical Research Council**
- No

c) Does the Centre collaborate with trials funded by pharmaceutical companies?

- Yes
- No

d) Will the Centre shortly begin investigation projects?

- Yes
- No

Indicate the three main publications over the last 2 years:

1/ Name of Journal: **Journal of Gerontology: Biological Sciences**

Title of article: **Association Between Circulating Osteogenic Progenitor Cells and Disability and Frailty in Older Persons: The Nepean Osteoporosis and Frailty Study**

2/ Name of Journal: **Journal of Cellular Biochemistry**

Title of article: **Lamin A/C Acts as an Essential Factor in Mesenchymal Stem Cell Differentiation Through the Regulation of the Dynamics of the Wnt/?-Catenin Pathway.**

3/ Name of Journal: **JAMDA**

Title of article: **Phenotype of osteosarcopenia in older individuals with a history of falling.**

Please add short biographies (maximum 1 page) of the Key Investigators and Head of Department

- Prof. Gustavo Duque is the Director of the Australian Institute for MUsculoskeletal Sciences. Prof. Duque is a Geriatrician and bone and muscle biologist with more than 90 publications in the areas of osteoporosis, sarcopenia, frailty, falls and fractures. Until November 30th, 2015, Professor Duque was the Director of the Musculoskeletal Ageing Program at the University of Sydney. From December 1st, 2016, Prof. Duque was appointed as Chair of Medicine and Director of AIMSS (aimss.org.au) at the University of

Melbourne (Australia). Prof. Duque has received several research awards from all the major scientific societies (AGS, GSA, ASBMR, CGS and ANZBMS). He is a regular speaker at medical conferences around the world. Prof. Duque is in charge of the aging research theme at AIMSS where together with more than 20 members of his team he performs bench to bedside research on musculoskeletal ageing. - Dr. Tara Brennan-Speranza is the Director of bone and muscle biology at AIMSS. Dr. Brennan-Speranza is a NHMRC Fellow with more than 35 publications in high to mid impact journals in the field of ageing bone and muscle, sarcopenia, osteoporosis and biomarkers for frailty. She has received funding from major agencies in Australia to pursue her translational research program at AIMSS aiming to the development of new therapies for osteoporosis and sarcopenia and also to the development of new biomarkers for frailty. - Dr. Alan Hayes is an Exercise Physiologist and basic biologist with dual affiliation to AIMSS and Victoria University. Dr. Hayes specializes on the metabolic changes that occur in ageing muscle. He is also working on the elucidation of the mechanisms of sarcopenia in older persons. - Dr. Itamar Levinger is a gerontologist specialized in the relationship between bone and muscle and the communication between those two tissues (myokines and cytokines). Dr. Levinger has more than 30 publications in high and mid impact journals and has received funding from all major agencies in Australia. Additionally to these 4 senior investigators, the AIMSS has 45 members including junior investigators, PostDocs, and graduate students in several disciplines including geriatrics and gerontology, nutrition, physiotherapy, nursing, medicine, molecular and cellular biology and exercise physiology. For more information please visit our website: aimss.org.au