The Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network – Board

The Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network Board is comprised of members with expertise in the fields of paediatrics, management and finance. The Board advises on planning, policy development and monitoring activities across the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network.

The Board consists of the following members:

Professor Christine Bennett AO
Chair

Professor Christine Bennett is a specialist paediatrician and has over 25 years of health industry experience in clinical care, strategic planning and senior management in the public, private and not for profit sectors. She is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and has an active commitment to and involvement in medical professional issues, social policy and medical research.

Professor Bennett was appointed to the role of Professor and Dean, School of Medicine, Sydney, The University of Notre Dame Australia in May 2011. Prior to this appointment, Professor Bennett was the Chief Medical Officer for Bupa Australia Group.

In February 2008, Professor Bennett was appointed by the then Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, to be Chair of the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission that provided advice to governments on a long term blueprint for the future of the Australian health system.

Professor Bennett’s experience has included being Partner in Health and Life Sciences for KPMG Australia, CEO of Research Australia, CEO of Westmead Hospital, General Manager for the Royal Hospital for Women and Head of Planning at NSW Health

Mr Richard Alcock
Deputy Chair

Mr Richard Alcock is the Managing Director of Investment Banking at Merrill Lynch International (Australia) Limited. He holds a number of corporate positions as an Advisor and Non-Executive Director.

Mr Alcock is a former Senior Partner, Head of Governance and Chairman of the Ethics Committee at Allens Arthur Robinson Lawyers. Mr Alcock is also a Director of the University of New South Wales Foundation Limited and Art Exhibitions Australia Limited.

Mr Alcock is a member of the Council of Knox Grammar School and is a former Director of Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation Limited and the Australia Indonesia Institute.
Ms Elizabeth Koff
Chief Executive (Seconded to NSW Ministry of Health)

Ms Elizabeth Koff was appointed as the Chief Executive of The Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network in September 2010. Prior to this role, Elizabeth held a number of Executive positions in South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service, including Director of Population Health, Planning and Performance and Director of Clinical Operations.

Professor Louise Baur AM
Board Member

Professor Louise Baur is Professor of Paediatrics & Child Health at Sydney Medical School and Professor, Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney. She is also Head of Weight Management Services at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead.

Professor Baur was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia in 2010 for service to medicine, particularly in the field of paediatric obesity as a researcher and academic, and to the community through support for a range of children’s charities.

Mrs Joanna Capon OAM
Board Member

Mrs Joanna Capon has a long association with The Children’s Hospital at Westmead and currently serves as the Chair of the Operation Art Management Committee.

Mrs Capon was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2002 for her services to The Children's Hospital at Westmead. Joanna is also on the Board of Directors for The George Institute for Global Health.

Mr Jack Ford
Board Member

Mr Ford a lawyer and consultant to the media industry. His clients include Telstra Corporation, the TV1/Sci-Fi Partnership and the City of Sydney. Mr Ford is a director of Ignite Media Brands and deputy chair of AVCS. Mr Ford was previously a partner at Blake Dawson and a senior executive at Sony Pictures in Australia.

Any questions regarding additional information for the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network Board please contact Ms Maryanne Lynch, Executive Services Manager on 9845 2637.
Professor Adam Jaffe

Board Member

Professor Adam Jaffé is the John Beveridge Professor and Head of the Discipline of Paediatrics at the University of New South Wales, Associate Director of Research for Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (Randwick) and a Paediatric Respiratory Consultant at Sydney Children’s Hospital, Randwick.

Professor Jaffe was appointed as Consultant in Paediatric Research at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children and the Institute of Child Health, London in 2001. In 2006, he returned to Sydney where he was previously a registrar at the Children’s Hospital, Westmead in 1994.

Professor Jaffe currently chairs the Aiming for Asthma Improvement in Children Program, funded by NSW Department of Health and the rare Young Lungs programme of Lung Foundation Australia.

Mrs Renata Kaldor AO

Board Member

Mrs Renata Kaldor has been involved in business, education, law and community affairs over a number of years. She is currently a Director of ASI Pty Ltd, Member of the Advisory Council of Alzheimer’s NSW and a Director of Andrew and Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law – UNSW – 2013. Renata was also previously appointed as the Deputy Chancellor at Sydney University.

Mrs Kaldor was awarded the Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2002 for her service to the community through raising awareness of issues affecting women, through leadership roles in government and advisory boards and through participation in a range of cultural, medical research and education.

Mrs Kaldor was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2003 and named an Honorary Fellow of the University of Sydney in 2005.

Mr David Nott

Board Member

Mr David Nott served for almost 30 years as a partner with KPMG, a global professional services firm providing leadership in Australia and internationally. At KPMG, David had a number of senior client and management roles.

In the ten years prior to his retirement from the firm he was the National Managing Partner of Transaction Services in Australia and served as that group’s ASPAC Regional Leader and as a member of the global steering committee.

Mr Nott is now a member of the panel of Foresight Global Coaching. He holds an Economics Degree from Sydney University and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and a member of the Governance Institute.

Any questions regarding additional information for the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network Board please contact Ms Maryanne Lynch, Executive Services Manager on 9845 2637.
Emeritus Professor Kim Oates AM
Board Member

Professor Kim Oates was Chief Executive of The Children’s Hospital at Westmead from 1997 to 2006. Prior to being appointed to this role, Professor Oates held various positions at the Hospital, including Community Paediatrician, Head of the Child Protection Unit, Head of the Child Development Unit and Children’s Assessment Centre and Director of Medical Services. Professor Oates held the Foundation Douglas Burrows Chair of Paediatrics and Child Health at Sydney University 1985 to 1997 and was simultaneously Chair of the Hospital’s Division of Medicine.

Professor Oates has been President of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Inaugural Chair of the New South Wales Child Death Review Team, Chair of the Federal Government’s National Council on the Prevention of Child Abuse and is a former President of Children’s Hospitals Australasia. Professor Oates has received a range of national and international awards for his research in child protection and for his advocacy for children including the RACP's Howard Williams Medal for “Outstanding contributions to Paediatrics and Child Health in Australasia” and the Kemp Award from USA for “Outstanding contributions to the community on behalf of children”.

Professor Oates is currently Emeritus Professor at the University of Sydney and Director of Undergraduate Quality and Safety at the Clinical Excellence Commission. Professor Oates is Chair of the SCHN Research Advisory Committee. Professor Oates was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1996 for service to medicine, particularly in the field of paediatrics and the welfare of children.

Dr Robyn Shields AM
Board Member

Dr Robyn Shields is currently working at a major teaching hospital. Dr Shields previously worked in mental health, developing mainstream Aboriginal mental health services in NSW in partnership with the Aboriginal Medical Service at Redfern. Dr Shields has also been responsible for developing services for Aboriginal inmates at Corrections Health Service, now known as Justice Health.

Dr Shields remains actively involved in mental health and continues her role as a NSW Mental Health Review Tribunal Member. Dr Shields has contributed to developing state and national policies and service development in Aboriginal Health and Aboriginal Mental Health and has been a member of the NSW Child Death Review Committee, the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW Ethics Committee and the National Health and Medical Research Committee - Indigenous Health.

In 2002, Dr Shields was awarded a Centenary Medal and in 2004 was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in recognition of her services to Aboriginal Mental Health in 2013, appointed as Deputy Mental Health Commissioner for NSW.
Professor Donna Waters  
**Board Member**

Professor Donna Waters is a registered general and obstetric nurse with 25 years’ experience in medical, nursing and health services research. Donna worked as a paediatric clinician and researcher at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead for 15 years.

Since then, Professor Waters has managed an independent nursing and health services research organisation, worked as the Manager of Research and Projects at the College of Nursing and as an Associate Professor of Nursing for Justice Health in NSW.

Professor Waters currently holds the position of Dean of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery (Sydney Nursing School) at the University of Sydney.

Mr Jeremy Wright  
**Board Member**

Mr Jeremy Wright is recently retired, having served as Chief Executive of Multiple Sclerosis Research Australia (the research arm of MS Australia) for nine years. This followed a career in business and marketing, and a 20 year engagement in raising funds for medical research and health issues.

Mr Wright’s business career includes senior positions with Ogilvy and Mather, the Sydney Opera House, Optus Communications, and the Australia Business Arts Foundation. In 1989, Mr Wright helped launch Red Nose Day for the Sudden Infant Death Association of NSW and went on to fund relevant medical research and promote Cot Death prevention measures. He subsequently assisted in Jeans for Genes Day for the Children’s Medical Research Institute, Westmead and has served on the Boards of the Starlight Foundation, Telstra ChildFlight and more recently with the Australian Cord Blood Foundation.

Mr Wright also serves on the Board of Sydney Cove Rotary, who sit proudly in the Hall of Champions as a significant supporter of the Sydney Children’s Hospital Foundation.

Dr Abby Bloom  
**Board Member**

Dr Abby Bloom is a company director and Adjunct Professor in the Menzies Centre for Health Policy in the Sydney Medical School. A director of Sydney Water, Dr Bloom chairs the board’s Health and Environment Committee.

Dr Bloom is a member of the NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Aging; a board member of the Yale Club of Australia; and serves on Griffith University’s Enterprise Advisory Board.

Dr Bloom is the founder and CEO of an innovative medical device company, and has been a director of several biomedical and health companies specialising in workplace health, back pain, and telehealth. Dr Bloom has advised hospitals, health networks and governments on health reform and strategic change in Australia and in over 20 countries.
Ex- Officio Invitees

Professor Les White AM
Chief Paediatrician

Professor Les White was recently appointed the inaugural Chief Paediatrician for NSW. He has been the Executive Director of Sydney Children’s Hospital, Randwick, convenor of the Greater Eastern and Southern NSW Child Health Network and the John Beveridge Professor of Paediatrics. He was awarded a Doctorate of Science for research contributions related to childhood cancer and has a Master of Health Administration. In 2007, Professor White received a Member of the Order of Australia for service to medicine, medical administration and the community in the field of paediatrics.

Vacant
Director of Finance and Corporate Services

Vacant
Medical Staff Council representative – The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Dr Christopher Webber
Medical Staff Council representative – Sydney Children’s Hospital Randwick

Dr Christopher Webber is a Paediatric Emergency Physician at Sydney Children’s Hospital and the Deputy Director of NETS NSW. Dr Webber is currently the Chair of the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick Senior Medical Staff Council.

Dr Webber medical career spans almost 30 years and has varied from isolated solo medical practice in rural Queensland to his current position in a tertiary children's hospital. Dr Webber remains a strong advocate for child health striving to improve access to services for all children in NSW, where ever they may live.

Dr Webber has a keen interest in health education of clinicians and his facilitation of educational forums is enthusiastic and often challenging to the audience.