



the women's
the royal women's hospital

Media Release

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NHMRC grant to study heavy menstrual bleeding

A research team at the Royal Women's Hospital has received over half a million dollars to study heavy menstrual bleeding (HMB) – which affects one in three women of reproductive age.

Professor Martha Hickey, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Women's and at the University of Melbourne, will work with two other researchers on the project: Mechanisms of Heavy Menstrual Bleeding.

The team has received a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grant of \$536,706 over three years for their work.

"We will use the grant to fund clinical studies to try to find out why women are troubled with HMB – a serious condition which affects about a third of women of reproductive age," Professor Hickey said.

"Our aim is to develop a better understanding of the condition and develop new therapies to counter the problem which, in many cases, causes anxiety, stress and social isolation for sufferers."

The other team members are Professor Peter Rogers, Professor of Women's Health Research, and Dr Jane Girling – both of the University of Melbourne.

The team will recruit 30 HMB sufferers for their clinical studies. Researchers will take a small sample of the lining of each woman's uterus to examine it for anomalies. The participants will be required to maintain a diary of their condition, and researchers will also observe them through examinations, tissue sampling and questionnaires.

"HMB is one of the main reasons why women are referred to the Women's and we see about one thousand women a year who suffer from the problem," Professor Hickey said.

For more information please call:

Robyn Anns, Media Manager, the Royal Women's Hospital – 03 8345 2953, 0419 128 400.