# Etools presentation Paris 21 May 2013

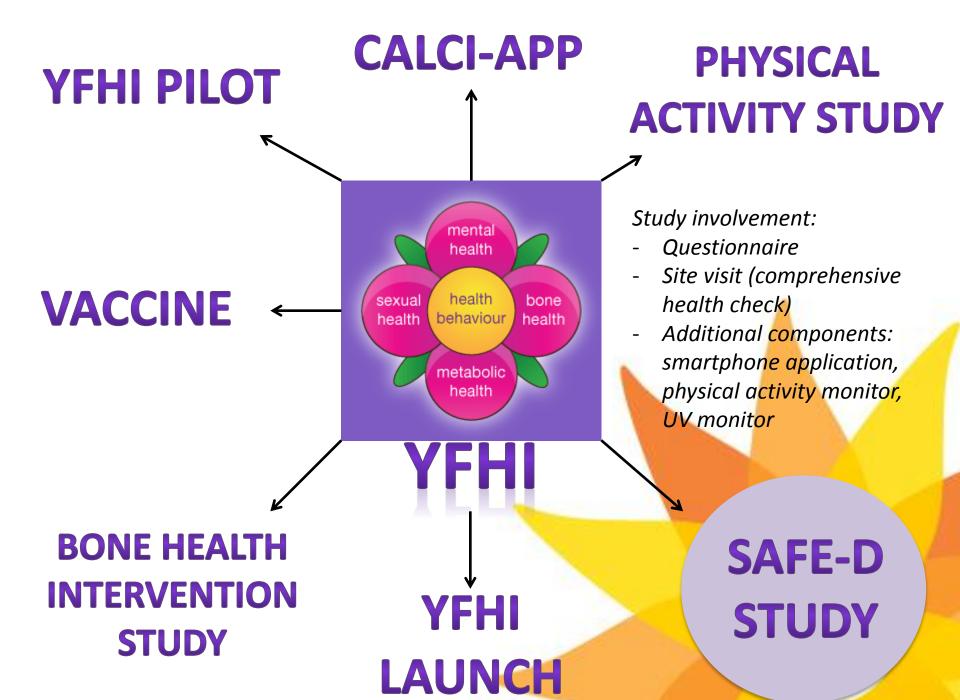
John D Wark



## Improving vitamin D status and related health in young women

Student Investigator: Emma Callegari\*

Investigators include: Prof. John Wark, Prof. Steve Howard, Dr Nicola Reavley, A/Prof Marie Pirotta, Prof. George Varigos, Prof. Suzanne Garland, Prof Kim Bennell, Ms Alexandra Gorelik, Prof. Anthony Jorm, Dr Tharshan Vaithianathan, Dr Shanton Chang and Stefanie Hartley (Project officer)

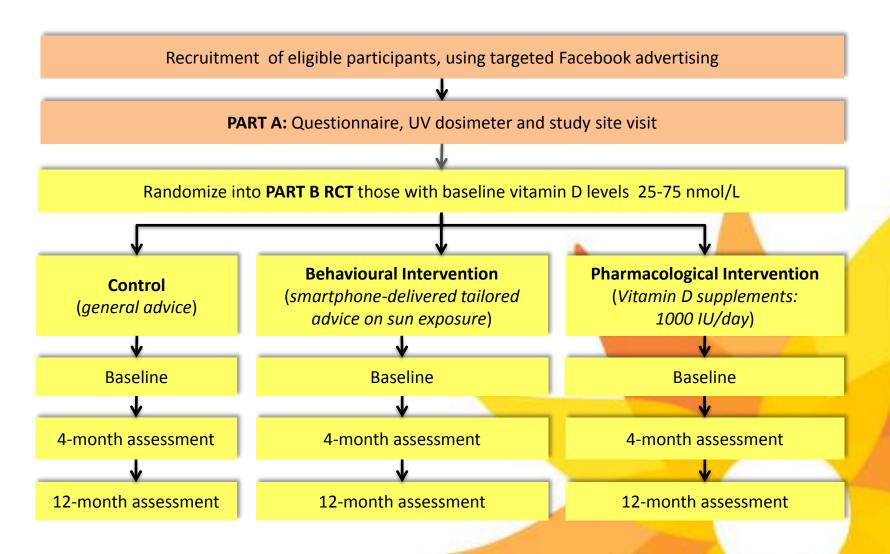


### Background

- Vitamin D deficiency:
  - Looming as a major public health issue
  - Potentially associated with risk of many chronic health conditions affecting millions of Australians, leading to considerable suffering, economic loss and premature death.
  - Important health risk for young women: up to 50% of Australian women are below currently-defined optimal vitamin D levels.



### Study design and analysis



### Part A: Baseline study

**Study Design**: cross-sectional study

Study population: N= 468+ 16-25 year-old women

#### **Primary aim:**

 Investigate the association of 25 OHD levels with clinical health indices and related laboratory measures: musculoskeletal health (bone density, bone turnover markers, muscle function); mood/mental health; body composition and weight; and atopic/allergic symptoms.

#### Secondary aim:

 Measure the relationship between 25 OHD levels and UV exposure under Australian conditions, examining both the overall dose and timing of sun exposure.

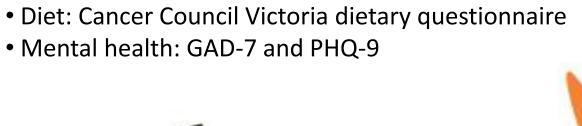
#### **Exploratory aims:**

- Define the statistical determinants of vitamin D status (e.g., sun exposure, weight/body mass index (BMI), skin colour, smoking, nutrition, physical activity, other lifestyle factors)
- Measure the relationship between UV exposure and actinic skin damage
- Assess young women's knowledge about safe sun exposure

### Online questionnaire

- 2 hour online questionnaire successfully tested and completed in 160 YFHI launch study participants
- Covers: participant demographics, medical history (incl. sexual history), lifestyle choices, SunSmart behaviour

#### Individually validated questionnaires:







### **UV** dosimeter

- NIWA National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, New Zealand
- NIWA has developed personal UV dosimeter badges
- Small and lightweight
- Robust & water resistant
- Sampling interval of 4 seconds to 4 minutes





### SenseWear (SWA) – Activity Monitor

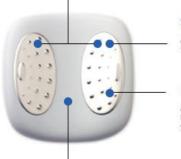
- Measures:
  - (1) Skin temperature,
  - (2) Heat flux
  - (3) Galvanic skin response,
  - (4) Body movements
  - (5) Steps
  - (6) Sleep amount and pattern
- Well validated in other populations but not in young Australians





#### Galvanic Skin Response

When you sweat, your skin becomes more electrically conductive. This measurement helps to see how active you are.



#### Skin Temperature

Measures the surface temperature of your body.

#### Heat Flux

Measures the rate at which heat is dissipating from your body.



Measures your motion and steps taken.











### Calci-App

#### Expectations of the application:

- Colour scheme and graphic tailored for young women
- User-friendly and simple
- Possibility to include search functions and saved selections for ease of entry on multiple uses
- Includes pictures for easy visualization
- Aim for application to be acceptable to young women and easy for them to comply with

#### **Screenshot 1:**





Welcome to Calci-App, [name of participant]!

About Calci-App

**Instructions** 

Start

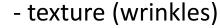
To contact the YFHI Study Team, click here.

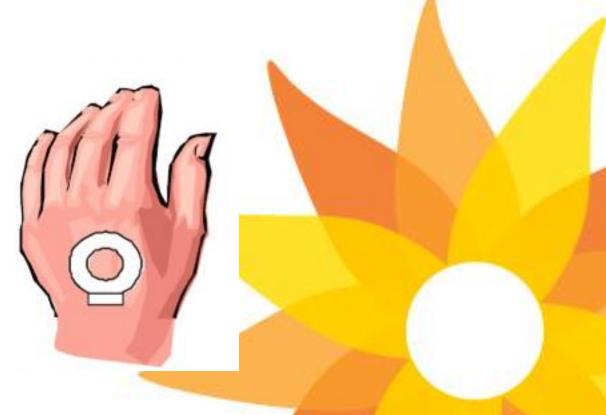
### Site visit: Skin reflectance and casting



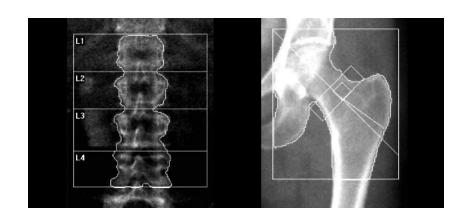
A contain the second se

- Silicone skin cast
- Skin photographs
  - melanin





### Site visit: Musculoskeletal Health

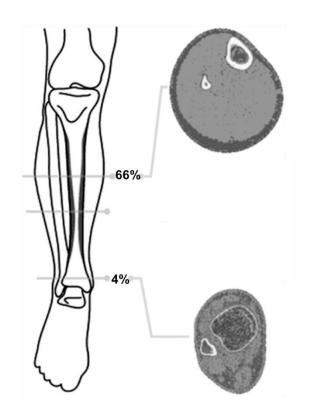


Bone densitometry:

- •DXA
- pQCT

Muscle health and balance:

Leonardo mechanography





### Safe-D study significance

- 1. First comprehensive study of vitamin D and related health in young women
- 2. Use of state-of-the-art LC-MS/MS method to measure vitamin D metabolites
- Incorporates powerful and novel ICT for recruitment, data collection and interventions
- 4. By using ICT we are able to recruit subjects who may not seek medical care and are therefore not picked by the healthcare system
- Behavioural interventions to (safely) improve vitamin D status have not been evaluated previously

### Acknowledgements









**Australian Government** 

National Health and Medical Research Council



### Acknowledgements







Melbourne EpiCentre Melbourne Physiology Department – Centre for Health, Exercise and Sports Medicine

