

Ageing and Vision Loss

SPECIALISTS IN INJURY PREVENTION AND OPTHALMIC EPIDEMIOLOGY

My program of research tackles a major issue facing Australia: that of the growing burden of injury in older people. Injury is a significant public health problem both globally and in Australia, where it is a national health priority. Falls and road-traffic injuries are the leading causes of unintentional injury and the two areas of focus

SELECTED RECENT PROJECTS

- PlaTFORM: PrevenTing Falls in a high risk, vision impaired population through specialist ORientation and Mobility services: a randomised trial NHMRC Project Grant (2016-2019)
- Evaluation of a program to enable older, at-risk drivers to stop or limit driving, but maintain mobility ARC Discovery Project (2011-2014), four year follow-up (2017)
- Falls risk associated with cataract and after first and second eye cataract surgery NHMRC Project Grant (2013-2016)

TRACK RECORD

A/Prof Keay has been awarded over \$6M (\$6,395,386) in the last 5 years including \$3.6 million as lead investigator for three large scale research studies from NHMRC, ARC and NSW Government.

THE TOOLS OF OUR TRADE

Behaviour change in injury Prevention

Randomised controlled trials of complex interventions

Cohort studies

Health systems research into the integration of hospital and community eyecare

Naturalistic driving studies

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES OF OUR TECHNOLOGIES

This program of research employs innovative methods such as accelerometers in falls research and in-vehicle monitoring in road safety. The findings of this research provides direction for investment in support services necessary to maintain safe mobility for older people, including:

- targeted falls prevention for older people with vision impairment and blindness,
- expedited cataract surgery and integrated refractive management to prevent falls in the larger number of older people with cataract.
- technological solutions to safety and mobility for older drivers
- new models of care for integrated hospital and community management of eye disease

OUR EXPERTS

Associate Professor Keay leads a team of 9 staff and students within the Injury Division at The George Institute. She works in multi-disciplinary teams in the fields of ophthalmology and injury prevention and collaborates across higher education sector, hospitals, government and community organisations.

