

Professor Andrew Dawson

Andrew Dawson is the Clinical Director, NSW Poisons Information Centre, Director Clinical Toxicology Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Clinical Professor of Medicine at University Sydney and Program Director of the South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration (SACTRC-<http://www.sactrc.org>). He is the current scientific chair and a past president of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. His active research areas include hospital based clinical trials, community interventions and epidemiology both in Australia and Sri Lanka. He has developed and delivered distance education courses in clinical toxicology since 2004

Brief CV

Current Appointments include:

- Director, NSW Poisons Information Centre, Sydney Childrens Hospital Network
- Clinical Professor of Medicine at University Sydney
- Conjoint Professor of Medicine at University NSW
- Conjoint Professor of Medicine at University of Western Sydney
- Visiting Professor, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
- Member and acting chair of the advisory committees on medicines and chemicals scheduling (ACMS and ACCS)

I am Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians since 1990 and the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh) since 1995. Accredited in General Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology

I was one of the founders of the South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration (SACTRC see www.sactrc.org). From 2004 to 2009 I lived in Sri Lanka and was the Program Director of SACTRC which was funded by a capacity building research program funded by the Wellcome Trust and the Australian NHMRC (GR071669MA) on which I was a co-investigator. In this role I helped establish a successful and productive multidisciplinary international research group and postgraduate program (16 postgraduate students). The initial principle research focus was to reduce deaths from deliberate self-poisoning. The major operational areas of research were primary prevention, regulatory control, policy change, translational research into new antidotes and research into the implementation of evidence into clinical practice. In the past 3 years activity has expanded to include envenoming and the health effects of occupational and environmental pesticide exposure, chronic renal failure and diabetes. As a researcher my major areas of expertise have been in hospital based clinical trials, community interventions and epidemiology.

Previously in Australia I co-established the Hunter Area Toxicology Service, a collaborative research network in Australia and initiated the Clinical Toxicology section of ASCEPT in 1997.

Major successes from the SACTRC research program have included regulatory & policy change to remove the most toxic pesticides resulting in a reduction in suicide, development of low cost bedside testing, completion of a number of phase 2 and phase 3 clinical trials. The SACTRC postgraduate program has contributed significantly to the development of new evidence that has lead to 120 peer reviewed publications since 2004. This evidence has been incorporated into national and international (WHO) guidelines. Research has expanded into primary rural hospitals where we are examining educational interventions and studying cultural reasons for the blocks in translating policy such as guidelines into practice. In concert with this work I am an investigator on a number of primary community studies that have focused upon determinants for pesticide selection and safe storage.

I am currently on the scientific committee and was previously a board member of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT). I am the past president of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. In 2010 I received the Louis Roche award from the EAPCCT in recognition of my contribution to clinical toxicology

I have authored over 120 publications in peer reviewed journals, 20 review articles, 14 book chapters and 130 presentations. My H index > 30. I am a regular invited speaker in international meetings and a reviewer for 12 publications.

Selected Invited Presentations

1. An accidental toxicologist in public health. Award Lecture. The Louis Roche Award for contributions to Clinical Toxicology, .Awarded by the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists, Scientific Congress Bordeaux 2010
2. Challenges and opportunities for toxicosurveillance in Asia, APAMT 9th Congress Keynote Speaker Hanoi, Vietnam November 17-19, 2010
3. Practical approaches to toxicosurveillance in Asia, IUTOX Invited Speaker Barcelona July 20, 2010
4. The Challenge of Clinical Toxicology in the Developing World: A Multi-national effort. Hong Kong Hospital Authority Toxicology Service Scientific Conference March 21 2009
5. Clinical Toxicology Training in the 21st century. Hong Kong Hospital Authority Toxicology Service Scientific Conference March 22 2009
6. Intermediate Syndrome:2008. Invited Keynote Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology, Chandigarh, India December 9, 2008
7. Propagation of Evidence: WikiTox an internet based open source curriculum in clinical toxicology. European Association of Poisons Centres & Clinical Toxicology Scientific Meeting, Seville, May 2008
8. Relative Toxicity of Pesticides in the Developing World. Invited Keynote. European Association of Poisons Centres & Clinical Toxicology Scientific meeting, Seville 2008. *Clinical Toxicology* 2008;46(5):403-4

Selected Publications

1. *Dawson AH*, Eddleston M, Senarathna L, et al. Acute Human Lethal Toxicity of Agricultural Pesticides: A Prospective Cohort Study. **PLoS Medicine** October 2010 | Volume 7 | Issue 10 | e1000357 **3 citations**
2. Eddleston M, Eyer P, Worek F, et un, *Dawson AH*, Buckley NA. Pralidoxime in acute organophosphorus insecticide poisoning--a randomised controlled trial. **PLoS Med** 2009 Jun 30;6(6):e1000104. **10 citations**
3. Eddleston M, Buckley NA, Eyer P, *Dawson AH*. Medical Management of Organophosphorus Pesticide Poisoning (Invited review). **Lancet** 2008;371:597-607. **81 citations**
4. Jayawardane P, *Dawson AH*, Weerasinghe V, et al. The spectrum of intermediate syndrome following acute organophosphate poisoning: a prospective cohort study from Sri Lanka. **PLoS Medicine** 2008;5(7): e147. **14 citations**
5. Eddleston M, Eyer P, Worek F, et un, *Dawson AH*, Buckley NA. Differences between Organophosphorus Insecticides in Human Self-Poisoning – A Prospective Cohort study. **Lancet** 2005;366:1452-59. **107 citations**
6. Senarathna L, Adams J, De Silva D, Buckley NA, *Dawson AH*. Personal and professional challenges in the management of deliberate self-poisoning patients in rural Sri Lanka: a qualitative study of rural hospital doctors' experiences and perceptions. **BMC Public Health** 2008;8:373 **2 citations**
7. Wilks MF, Fernando R, Ariyananda PL, et un, *Dawson A* . Improvement in survival after paraquat ingestion following introduction of a new formulation in Sri Lanka. **PLoS Med** 2008 Feb ;5(2):e49 **12 citations**