



ANNUAL REPORT

2024 – 2025



Skin Health Institute

Level 1, 80 Drummond Street, Carlton, VIC 3053

Telephone: (03) 9623 9400

Facsimilie: (03) 9639 3575

Email: info@skinhealthinstitute.org.au

Website: skinhealthinstitute.org.au

X: @SkinHealth_Inst

Instagram: @skin_health_institute

Facebook: facebook.com/SkinHealthInstitute

LinkedIn: Skin Health Institute

The Skin Health Institute respectfully acknowledges that we work on the traditional land of the Kulin Nation, and we acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and those of the future.





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ABOUT US

Established in 1987 by a visionary group of dermatologists, the Skin Health Institute stands as a one-of-a-kind organisation, excelling in diagnosis, treatment, and patient care. Over time, the Institute has evolved into a not-for-profit centre of excellence in skin health, offering specialised clinical treatments, education, and groundbreaking research for various skin diseases, skin cancers, and melanoma that influence clinical practices worldwide.

As Victoria's exclusive centre dedicated to advancing our three core pillars, we collaborate closely with the Australasian College of Dermatologists to deliver world-class education to medical, nursing, and allied health staff at local, national, and international levels. Yearly, we provide thousands of patient treatments, while our education caters to dermatologists, registrars, healthcare workers, and the public with a focus on improving skin health in the community, targeting chronic skin conditions like eczema and psoriasis.

Our multidisciplinary team, comprising of over 80 dermatologists, plastic surgeons and various allied healthcare professionals, fosters a collaborative, integrated approach to excellence in our core areas. Our shared mission is to provide top-tier support and care, and to continually advance dermatological treatments, ultimately promoting skin health and awareness across Australia, promoting a healthier future for skin health worldwide.

VISION & PURPOSE

Our vision is to be a centre of excellence in skin health and a home for dermatology. We aim to create a lasting impact in skin health through excellence and innovation in treatment, education and research.

OUR BOARD



Dr Edward Upjohn
President



Jim Power
Treasurer and Chair
of Finance, Audit &
Risk Management
Committee



**Associate Professor
Peter Foley**
Board Member



**Associate Professor
Aaron Robinson**
Board Member



Dr Jennifer Cahill
Board Member and
Chair of Governance
Committee



**Associate Professor
Patrick Mahar OAM**
Board Member



Dr Sarah Smithson
Board Member



Margie Stewart
Board Member



Noel Hanssens
Board Member



Siba Diger
Board Member

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to **Dr Damien Angus**, who stepped down from his position in November 2024, during his tenure, Damien made significant contributions to the success of the Skin Health Institute.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DR EDWARD UPJOHN

It was an honour to serve as President of the Skin Health Institute over the past two years, and I am especially grateful for the support of my colleagues on the Board and for the dedication of our staff.

The 2024 AGM and Member Awards evening was an opportunity to celebrate not only a successful year at the Institute but also the extraordinary contributions of SHI Special Member Award recipients; Dr Michelle Goh FACS and Mr Miklos ("Miki") Pohl FRCS, FRACS (Plast), OAM. Michelle and Miki joined an illustrious group of previous award recipients and have been enormous contributors to the Institute over many years, both as expert clinicians and mentors of the next generation of dermatologists.

In last years' annual report, we celebrated the outcomes of the financial sustainability plan and early signs of a turnaround in the Institute's financial performance. The 2024-25 year was notable for the consolidation of sustainable operating performance and delivery of a strong surplus, allowing us to replenish cash reserves and reduce debt. Importantly, the Institute has now laid the foundations for sustainable performance into the

future, to ensure we have sufficient cash reserves for any unforeseen financial shocks and are able to replace assets as necessary. Getting to this point has required focus, a lot of hard work, and a real team effort.

Aside from the necessary focus on finances, 2024-25 was notable for a review and update of the Institute's Strategic Plan. The refresh of the Plan, which had been deferred while we focused on financial sustainability, was an important opportunity to reflect on SHI's mission and role as a home for dermatology in Victoria. Board members, senior staff, and a few other key stakeholders, all participated in a planning session during the year to discuss and agree on strategic priorities. Key areas of focus over the next few years include supporting SHI members with invaluable networking and educational opportunities; continuing to provide excellence in care across sub-specialty clinics, general dermatology clinics, advanced and Mohs surgery lists; providing training for registrars and fellows both within Victoria and nationally; expanding our clinical trial offerings; and continuing to grow the Australasian Dermatology Registry (ADR).

SHI really is a special organisation and its sometimes easy to take it for granted. It is worth reminding ourselves of just how unique the organisation is and how much the dermatology profession, particularly in Victoria, has benefited from the vision of SHI's Founders and the hard work and dedication of its members over the past 38 years.

I would like to acknowledge in particular the distinguished tenure of one of the Founders of the Institute, Dr. Philip Lane, who concludes his outstanding service with the Institute at the end of this year. Dr. Lane's significant legacy at SHI was pivotal role in establishing the Phototherapy Clinic, now the Advanced Targeted Therapy Clinic, some 20 years ago. Beyond his clinical contributions, Dr. Lane has been highly valued as a brilliant teacher and mentor to many of the trainee dermatologists passing through the Institute.

I would like to express my appreciation to my fellow Board members; Dr Jenny Cahill (Chair, Governance Committee), A/Prof Peter Foley, A/Prof Patrick Mahar, A/Prof Aaron Robinson, Dr Sarah Smithson, Margaret Stewart, Jim Power, and the new members

we welcomed in 2024, Siba Diqer and Noel Hanssens. Special thanks and appreciation also to Darren Scammel and Kirsty Turner, both long-standing members of the Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee.

I would like to make special mention of Jim Power, who concludes his terms on the Board and as Chair of the Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee. Jim has made an enormous contribution to the Institute, having volunteered for over nine years on the Board and provided invaluable financial and strategic expertise over that time; all the more noteworthy given he is not a dermatologist. His calm and wise counsel has been of great benefit to the Institute.

Finally, on behalf of the Board I would like to thank SHI's members, staff, and corporate partners, for all their support and hard work over the year.

Dr Edward Upjohn
BSc (Hons) MBBS, MPH, FACD, FAFOEM



CEO'S REPORT

DAVID MALONE

The Institute's top priorities over the 2024-25 year were to consolidate sustainable financial performance and the business turn-around commenced in prior years, develop a new strategic plan with an agreed reporting framework, and invest in systems and digital tools to set us up for the future.

Following a return to financial sustainability in the previous year with a small surplus of \$141k, the Institute's financial performance continued to improve in 2024-25. A net surplus of \$550k in the 2025 financial year exceeded budget and equated to an operating margin of just over 5%. The healthy surplus allowed the Institute to reduce interest expenses on debt, replenish financial reserves, replace some ageing assets, and provide above-inflation wage increments for our hard-working staff.

Key drivers of the strong operating result were a full-year impact of cost reductions implemented in the previous financial year, increased clinical services revenue (largely derived from renegotiated rates with private health funds), and an outperformance in clinical trials with strong patient recruitment. The operating surplus, together with an uplift in the value of 80 Drummond Street, strengthened the Institute's balance sheet with net assets increasing by ~\$1.3 million.

Most pleasingly, the improved financial performance was achieved while continuing to deliver strong outcomes across the Institute's three pillars of Research, Education and Treatment.

Research

2024-25 was marked by global recognition for the Institute's research team, with SHI becoming the first site in the world to activate and randomise a participant in a landmark atopic dermatitis clinical trial. The Institute also successfully diversified its research portfolio into cosmetic dermatology research, securing our position as one of only three Australian sites for a new therapy trial. The research team also produced excellent results over the year in terms of patient recruitment and productivity.

The Australasian Dermatology Registry rapidly expanded over 2024-25, signing on 80 sites across Australia and enrolling 1500 participants, delivering real-world data that has resulted in three accepted publications and poster presentations at the ACD Annual Scientific Meeting.

Education

Over the past financial year, the Institute continued to deliver high-quality, in-person dermatology education, while expanding the reach of its education program. An exciting new initiative, the International Speaker Roadshow Series, was launched featuring Professor John McGrath, who toured five capital cities and was met with overwhelming demand in every location. Planning for future roadshows was also progressed during the past year, with strong indicators of interest for future events.

SHI also hosted the fourth consecutive Pillars of Dermatology Practice Symposium event, with 170 dermatologists and rheumatologists in attendance, and ran the fully-subscribed eighth annual Registrar Biologics Masterclass. Through key partnerships with Novartis, Sun Pharma, and new sponsor LEO Pharma, SHI further cemented its reputation as a leader in education and engagement at a national level.

The Institute's commitment to registrar education Australia-wide also remained paramount, with 34 Skin School sessions delivered over the previous year for an average participant feedback rating of 4.9/5.

Clinical Services

Maintaining subspecialty clinics, increasing surgery lists, and introducing some new general dermatology clinics, were all priorities during the prior financial year. As the number of patient referrals to the Institute continues to grow, and dermatology workforce supply remains tight, workforce issues continue to be a major challenge for the Institute. Pleasingly, the Institute was able to attract and accredit a significant number of new dermatologists during 2024-25, facilitating the continuation of all subspecialty clinics and an increase in surgery activity.

Additional investment was put in place from early 2025 to support an increase in the number of SHI-employed Fellows. The objectives of this initiative being to increase the Institute's capacity to cover registrar shortfalls when registrar rostering doesn't align with SHI clinic requirements, and to ensure consultants in subspecialty

clinics remain well supported. Clinics and research trials capacity benefited significantly from this additional investment in "non accredited" registrars during the second half of the financial year, and this approach will be maintained into 2026.

Commenced during the previous financial year, the Practice Modernisation Project is an important project that aims to deliver contemporary practice management systems to best support SHI's clinicians and patients. This project will continue to be a priority well into 2026, with the independent review undertaken by Evolve Health in 2023 continuing to serve as an important roadmap for this work.

In closing, I'd like to thank all SHI staff for their hard work and commitment to the Institute's mission over what has been a very productive year. Special thanks to the Institute's hard-working Leadership Team, and the dermatologists who have served in critical leadership roles in the organisation: A/Prof Peter Foley (Director Research), A/Prof Patrick Mahar OAM (Medical Director), and A/Prof Aaron Robinson (Director Education).

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for the invaluable leadership provided by the Institute's Board members and the co-opted members of the Board Finance Committee.

David Malone
CEO



EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY AND CARE

CLINICAL SERVICES

Over the past year, Clinical Services has seen significant growth and advancement, particularly within surgical disciplines.

There has been a substantial increase in surgical activity, with an additional 1372 cases for the last financial year. This increase reflects enhanced patient access and optimised operational efficiencies within our surgical theatres.

Our commitment to specialised training and advanced surgical techniques continues to yield positive results.

The Mohs Micrographic Surgery training program continues to be accredited by the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD). This accreditation underscores the high standards and quality of our training, ensuring the ongoing development of highly skilled specialists in this critical area.

Furthermore, our clinic infrastructure has expanded to meet growing patient demand. Skin Health Institute continues to deliver exemplary care in our subspecialty clinics providing more than 7900 clinic appointments. There has been an increase in new referrals to the institute which demonstrates an improvement in accessibility to our services.

AUSTRALASIAN LEADERSHIP IN MOHS LABORATORY EXCELLENCE

SKIN HEALTH INSTITUTE RECOGNISED IN UK NEQAS CPT ASSESSMENT

The Skin Health Institute (SHI) is proud to highlight the international recognition of its Mohs Laboratory team following outstanding performance in the UK NEQAS CPT Mohs External Quality Proficiency Assessment, a leading global benchmarking program for Mohs laboratories.

In June, Sonya Odhavji, Head Mohs Scientist at SHI, represented Australasia as an assessor for the UK NEQAS CPT Mohs scheme. This globally respected, independent quality assurance program upholds the highest technical standards in laboratory practice. As part of an international panel of experts, Ms Odhavji evaluated anonymised frozen section slide submissions from laboratories across the UK and beyond, assessing section quality, staining quality, and technical accuracy.

This year, the SHI Mohs Laboratory achieved exceptional results, earning a perfect score of 10/10 in one module and ranking second in the remaining three modules within the Mohs Micrographic Laboratory Procedures category.

These results are particularly noteworthy as SHI was the first Australian laboratory to participate in the UK NEQAS CPT program, filling a critical gap in the absence of a local Mohs-specific quality assurance program through RCPAQAP. Ms Odhavji's appointment

as Australia's first trained NEQAS Mohs Assessor marks an important milestone and reinforces SHI's leadership in technical excellence and innovation.

The Mohs Laboratory's success demonstrates SHI's ongoing commitment to ISO 15189-aligned standards, ensuring world-class precision, quality, and reliability.

With Australia recording some of the highest skin cancer rates globally, and with Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC) and Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC) among the most common forms, the accuracy and efficiency of Mohs Micrographic Surgery are crucial to achieving optimal patient outcomes.

Behind the scenes, the dedicated SHI Mohs Laboratory team, Sonya, Lisa, and Hong, provides rapid, accurate histological assessments that directly support SHI's Mohs Dermatology Specialists: Professor Phil Bekhor, Dr Tim Rutherford, Dr Edward Upjohn, Dr Bonnie Swann, Dr Harini Bala, and Dr Alain Tran.

This achievement further strengthens SHI's reputation as a Centre of Excellence in Mohs Surgery, reaffirming its role as a leader in advancing international standards in Mohs laboratory practice.



CONSULTANTS 2024/2025

ACNE

A/Prof Aaron Robinson

ADVANCED SURGERY

Mr Miklos Pohl OAM

Mr Nigel Mann

Mr John Beer

Ms Angela Webb

Mr Jeremy Richardson

Ms Vanessa Morgan

Prof Johannes Kern

Dr Sajna Shoukath

ADVANCED TARGETED THERAPIES

A/Prof Peter Foley

Dr Philip Lane

Dr Alice Rudd

Dr Shobha Joseph

Dr Katherine Armour

Dr Rose Mak

A/Prof Patrick Mahar OAM

Dr Matheen Mohamed

Dr Francis Lai

Dr Lena Ly

Dr Rachael Davenport

Dr Rebecca Nguyen

Dr Senhong Lee

Dr Zahra Assarian

Dr Quynh Le

Dr Tom Kovitwanichkanont

Dr William Berry

ATOPIC DERMATITIS

A/Prof Peter Foley

Dr Lena Ly

CONTACT DERMATITIS

Dr Mei Tam

Dr Bruce Tate

Dr Adriene Lee

Dr Anina Fitzgibbon

Dr Nishan Amerasinghe

Dr Linda Bingham

GENERAL DERMATOLOGY

Dr Kamaldeep Sandhu

Prof Stephen Gilmore

GENETICS

Prof Ingrid Winship AO

HAIR

Dr Jill Cargnello

Dr Olivia Milne

Dr Jack Green

Dr Jane Li

Dr Sarah Shen

HIDRADENITIS SUPPURATIVA

Dr Linda Bingham

Dr Claire Higgins

HYPERHIDROSIS

Dr Kamaldeep Sandhu

LIAISON

Dr Josie Yeatman

Dr Melissa Thomas

MELANOMA

Dr Chris Jalilian

Dr Hugh Roberts

Dr Ritva Vyas

MEN'S HEALTH

Dr Mark Darling

MOHS SURGERY

A/Prof Philip Bekhor

Dr Edward Upjohn

Dr Tim Rutherford

Dr Bonnie Swan

Dr Harini Bala

Dr Alain Tran

NAIL

Dr Marguerite Seth

Dr Hope Dinh

NAIL SURGERY

Prof Johannes Kern

OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOLOGY

A/Prof Rosemary Nixon AM

Dr Jenny Cahill

Dr Adriene Lee

Dr Claire Higgins

Dr Linda Bingham

ORAL MUCOSAL

Dr Tami Yap

Dr Lara DeAngelis

Dr Ryan De Cruz

Dr Ashling McNally

Dr Sarah Smithson

PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY

Dr Kamaldeep Sandhu

PODIATRY

Dr Joseph Frenkel

SKIN CANCER ASSESSMENT

Dr Michelle Goh

Dr Mark Darling

Dr Bevin Bhoyrul

A/Prof Alvin Chong

Dr Charles Xie

Dr Rebecca Dunn

Dr Ritva Vyas

Dr Michael Webster

TRANSPLANT

A/Prof Alvin Chong

Dr Michelle Goh

Dr Sarah Brennand

A/Prof Aaron Robinson

Dr Jane Li

Dr Katherine Allnut

VASCULAR LASER & ROSACEA

Dr Belinda Welsh

VITILIGO

A/Prof Adrian Mar

A/Prof Michelle Rodrigues

Dr Shally Gupta

Dr Desmond Gan

BUILDING DERMATOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS THE PACIFIC

The Skin Health Institute is proud to announce a new Memorandum of Understanding with Pacific Dermatology, a not-for-profit organisation that delivers specialist dermatology training through the Diploma of Dermatology and Masters of Dermatology at Fiji National University.

The program has been championed by Dr Margot Whitfeld, a highly respected NSW dermatologist, whose dedication to advancing dermatological education across the Pacific has been instrumental in its growth and success.

Through this partnership, the Institute is supporting education and training to strengthen dermatology services across the South Pacific. A/Prof Patrick Mahar has been privileged to work alongside clinicians and their teams in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, and Fiji, promoting dermatological care and exchanging expertise.

This year, A/Prof Mahar has taken on the role of Lead External Examiner for both the Diploma and Masters programs at Fiji National University. The experience has provided a valuable opportunity to build professional networks with colleagues across Oceania, while also gaining exposure to unique and fascinating dermatological cases endemic to the region.

The collaboration between Pacific Dermatology and the Skin Health Institute also creates opportunities for the Institute's own Fellows. Those with an interest in tropical dermatology are warmly encouraged to volunteer their time and expertise to support these centres, strengthening ties and contributing to improved skin health in some of Australia's closest international neighbours.

Pictured: Leprosy Clinic, Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea



A woman with brown hair tied back, wearing a light blue lab coat, is seated at a desk and looking at a computer monitor. Her hands are on the keyboard. In the foreground, the arm and hand of another person wearing a patterned sleeve are visible, also near the desk. The background is a bright, clinical environment with white walls and a large window.

CLINICAL RESEARCH & ADVANCED TARGETED THERAPIES

CLINICAL RESEARCH

This past year has been exceptionally productive for our clinical trials team, marked by significant growth. We have continued to support pharmaceutical research encompassing a wide spectrum of dermatological conditions including atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, hidradenitis suppurativa, vitiligo, alopecia areata, and chronic urticaria.

A pivotal highlight of the year was our diversification into cosmetic dermatology clinical research with our site one of three in Australia chosen to trial a potential new therapy for the treatment of frown lines. Our team also achieved a remarkable global milestone being the first site worldwide to be activated for a landmark clinical trial in atopic dermatitis, followed by becoming the first site globally to randomise a participant into this important study. These accomplishments are a testament to our team's efficiency, expertise, and the trust placed in us by international research partners.

Beyond our sponsored trials, we remain deeply invested in collaborative research, actively supporting initiatives such as the Siroskin study, led by Associate Professor Alvin Chong and the ACEMID project which focuses on the development of artificial intelligence technology in improving melanoma diagnosis. This commitment to broader research partnerships further solidifies our position as a leading centre for dermatological innovation.

The safety, care, and well-being of our clinical trial participants remains paramount. Our highly skilled team, led by Associate Professor Peter Foley, comprises dedicated dermatologists, registered nurses, study coordinators, and research fellows. They consistently provide exceptional patient-centred care, not only achieving but often surpassing the ambitious goals of each clinical trial.

Our team's hard work, great collaboration, and positive outlook are constantly reflected in the excellent feedback we get every day from our participants. This dedication has led to outstanding financial results, showing how much our expanded research and efficient operations have achieved. We're excited to keep this momentum going, providing quality care and making significant contributions to dermatological research.



Australasian
Dermatology
Registry

AUSTRALASIAN DERMATOLOGY REGISTRY

The Australasian Dermatology Registry is a collaboration between dermatologists across Australasia, established to monitor and evaluate current and emerging treatments, and to provide a platform for dermatology research. The registry currently includes patients with psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, hidradenitis suppurativa, and vitiligo, with plans to expand to include chronic urticaria in 2026. Additional skin condition modules will be developed in the future.

Since recruitment commenced in September 2023, 1500 participants have been enrolled, with more than 80 clinics across the country registered to participate.

Two information evenings were held over the last 12 months: "Using the Australasian Dermatology Registry for Research" and "The First Year of the Australasian Dermatology Registry". The online evenings enabled dermatologists and dermatology nurses to find out about the registry design, benefits of participating, how the registry data are being used for research studies, and analysis of the first 1000 registry participants.

Clinical registry data are valuable for improving clinical outcomes and patients' quality of life. At the Australasian College of Dermatologists' Annual Scientific Meeting in May this year, one study using registry data was presented, "Comparative Efficacy of Biologics in Psoriasis Across Anatomical Regions: An Analysis of IL-12/23, IL-17, IL-23, and TNF- α Inhibitors" by Dr Nisal Punchihewa.

Additionally, four posters were accepted: "The First 1000 Participants in the Australasian Dermatology Registry", "Atopic Dermatitis within the Australasian Dermatology Registry", "Atopic dermatitis in regional and remote Australians: A review of the Australasian Dermatology Registry", and "Musculoskeletal symptoms in patients diagnosed with psoriasis: a retrospective analysis of data from the Australasian Dermatology Registry".

This year, the registry has had three publications accepted: "Development of an Australasian Dermatology Registry", "Real-World Guselkumab Response and Drug Survival in Australian Patients With Psoriasis: Results From the Australasian Psoriasis Registry", and "Drug Survival of Biological Therapies in Smokers and Non-Smokers With Psoriasis: A Retrospective Cohort Study Using Data From the Australasian Psoriasis Registry".

Clinical registry data provides real world longitudinal data to answer research questions that may be outside the scope of randomised controlled trials. The registry team are currently working on several projects including a two-year deucravacitinib drug survival study to provide real world evidence of the effectiveness and safety of prescribing Sotyktu to patients with psoriasis, the impact gender has on drug survival for the first biologic prescribed, and the social determinants that affect clinical outcomes.



ADVANCED TARGETED THERAPIES SERVICES

Looking back at the past year, the Institute is incredibly proud of the continued dedication and significant advancements within its Dermatology Nursing team. Our commitment remains in delivering high-quality patient care in a supportive environment for nursing staff and actively promoting their professional development.

The ATT nursing team are essential to the comprehensive care provided at SHI. They work alongside dermatologists and registrars in our ATT clinics supporting all aspects of patient care. Their expertise ensures that every patient receives compassionate, high-quality care that's tailored for them. We have been lucky to welcome two new ATT nurses this year – Anna McKinlay and Kennedy Loffler. They have been a tremendous addition to the team. We are also happy to welcome three new dermatologists to the ATT fold, with Dr Claire Higgins, Dr Tom Kovitwanichkanont and Dr William Berry joining the SHI team.

A major focus this year has been on expanding the skills and knowledge of the nursing team through dedicated professional development initiatives. SHI firmly believes that investing in its nurses' growth not only boosts their individual careers but also continues to improve the standard of care provided to patients.

SHI proudly supported two of its ATT nurses in undertaking the Melanography Course through the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD). This specialised training gives the ATT nurses advanced skills in detecting skin cancer, which really strengthens their ability to support the dermatologists in providing early diagnosis and management of skin cancers in patients that attend Advanced Therapy Clinics. We plan to support training of additional nurses next year.

SHI is especially delighted to share its support for Laura Spicer as she pursues her Nurse Practitioner training. This advanced training will allow Laura to expand her scope of practice significantly, enabling her to provide a higher level of autonomous care, including the management of inflammatory skin conditions in collaboration with our clinicians. Laura's training is a huge milestone, not just for her personally, but for the broader nursing capabilities within SHI, and it will certainly pave the way for enhanced patient access to expert care.



REFLECTIONS FROM DR CONOR LARNEY CLINICAL TRIALS RESEARCH FELLOW

Dr Conor Larney's journey to becoming a Clinical Trials Research Fellow at the Skin Health Institute reflects his long-standing passion for dermatology and medical research. His interest began during medical school in Dublin, where he undertook a dermatology elective, and later while working in the dermatology department at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne. During this time, he observed clinics at the Institute and was impressed by both the breadth of clinical trials underway and the supportive, collaborative culture.

Since beginning the fellowship, Conor has found the experience "immensely rewarding." Under the mentorship of Prof Peter Foley, Sarah Chivers, and the trials team, he has been involved in every stage of dermatology trials across conditions such as psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, alopecia areata, hidradenitis suppurativa, acne, and skin cancers. He also attends regular dermatology clinics, learning from subspecialists and gaining exposure to both common and rare skin, hair, and nail conditions.

What Conor values most is the teamwork and the chance to witness the impact of novel therapies. "Following participants closely during trials has allowed me to build meaningful relationships with them. Watching their confidence and quality of life improve has been especially rewarding," he shares.

A standout moment was supporting a patient with severe psoriasis, unable to access Medicare, who was enrolled in a clinical trial through the Institute's advanced targeted therapies team. "Seeing his disease improve so dramatically – and the effect this had on his quality of life – reinforced why I want to pursue a career in dermatology: to enhance patients' lives with gold standard care."

Reflecting on his time, Conor describes the Skin Health Institute as a "dynamic and welcoming place to learn," where multidisciplinary teamwork drives excellence in patient care, education, and research. His fellowship has strengthened his commitment to advancing dermatology and improving outcomes for patients living with skin disease.

"Following participants closely during trials has allowed me to build meaningful relationships with them. Watching their confidence and quality of life improve has been especially rewarding."



CLINICAL TRIALS FELLOW DR LAXMI IYENGAR

"The Clinical Trials Fellow role is an exciting opportunity to gain exposure to leading-edge treatments in dermatology, which is what initially drew me to the position," Dr Iyengar explains. "Being involved in clinical trials offers valuable insight into complex disease mechanisms and treatment rationales. It is also incredibly rewarding to work closely with patients and contribute to the advancement of clinical care."

Dr Iyengar joined the Institute in 2023 and describes the process of becoming a fellow as both exciting and career-defining. "The Skin Health Institute is recognised as a world-renowned centre of excellence in dermatology. The knowledge and hands-on experience I have gained here has been invaluable in shaping my clinical practice."

Reflecting on her experience, Dr Iyengar says she feels "extremely privileged" to work in an environment that offers exposure to the breadth of medical and surgical dermatology, while also contributing to education and research. "I enjoy the process of ongoing learning at the Skin Health Institute. As a fellow I am exposed to a range of specialty clinics, and I have the opportunity to work with experts in the field. The fact that SHI is also an accredited training facility for ACD registrars makes working closely with trainees highly motivating."

For Dr Iyengar, the most rewarding moments have been seeing the impact of innovative treatments on patients' lives. "It is incredibly rewarding to see patients improve in response to novel treatments, especially when their disease has been recalcitrant to mainstream therapies. This is something I witness every day in clinical trials, and I feel grateful to be part of the patient's illness journey."

"Being involved in clinical trials offers valuable insight into complex disease mechanisms and treatment rationales. It is also incredibly rewarding to work closely with patients and contribute to the advancement of clinical care."



OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOLOGY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTRE (ODREC)

The Occupational Dermatology Research and Education Centre (ODREC) team oversees the Occupational Dermatology and Contact Dermatitis Clinics, where patients with suspected contact dermatitis are referred for patch testing to assist in diagnosis. ODREC also manages the Contact Allergen Bank Australia (CABA), which supplies pre-prepared patch tests to dermatologists across the country.

In addition to clinical services, the ODREC team conducts clinical research and plays a key national role in patch testing education. The 2024- 25 SHI patch testers included Dr Jenny Cahill, Dr Anina Fitzgibbon, Dr Claire Higgins, Dr Mei Tam, Dr Bruce Tate, and A/ Prof Rosemary Nixon AM. We were especially delighted to welcome newcomer Dr Linda Bingham to the team this year.

Our 12th Annual Patch Test Training Day was held in Brisbane prior to the Australasian College of Dermatologists' Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) and was a great success, attracting more than 100 nurses and doctors. The event was hosted by Dr Jenny Cahill, stepping in for A/Prof Rosemary Nixon AM, who was on annual leave.

Dermatologists Drs Mei Tam, Jenny Cahill, Alexis Lara Rivero, and Claire Higgins presented updates from the European Society of Contact Dermatitis meeting in Dresden (August 2024) and covered key topics including diagnostic approaches, patient counselling, and tape allergy.

In May 2025, we launched the Patch Test Certificate, an online training package designed to upskill nurses and junior registrars in patch testing.

Past and present ODREC Research Fellows Dr Seamus Fuller, Dr Amreeta Kaur and Dr Tom Brasher, along with Dr Selene Ting (NZ) and Dr Arav Kannan (Adelaide), delivered engaging presentations on allergies to metal implants, a new cause of rubber accelerator allergy in healthcare workers, occupational urticaria, topical steroid allergy, povidone-iodine allergy, and an eyelid rash in a WorkCover patient. Dr Mei Tam and Dr Greg Siller from Queensland chaired the Contact Dermatitis session at the ASM, where Dr Fuller, Dr Kaur, and Dr Laxmi Iyengar also presented.

Our exceptional patch test nurses Mandy Palmer, Suzette Foster, and Kennedy Loffler presented on the Contact Allergen Bank Australia and the practical aspects of patch testing, including testing patients' own products. We were thrilled to welcome Suzette back to the team after a short break last year.

In May 2025, we launched the Patch Test Certificate, an online training package designed to upskill nurses and junior registrars in patch testing. It is now available for purchase on the SHI website. We are especially grateful to Dr Kajal Patel, ODREC's former Research Fellow and current NSW registrar, for her valuable contributions to developing this resource. A version tailored for dermatologists and senior registrars will be released in early 2026.

It has been deeply rewarding to witness the professional growth of our talented patch test nurses Karen Betts and Kennedy Loffler, and we warmly welcome Sarah Ginsberg to the team. We also extend our appreciation to our outstanding ODREC Manager, Mandy Palmer, whose leadership and dedication continue to inspire us.

We continue to welcome numerous visitors to SHI, including international clinicians keen to enhance their expertise in patch testing, as well as students interested in dermatology. Recent visitors included Dr Nannapas Posanworn (Thailand, six months), Dr Miranda Waugh (Canada), Dr Gillian Britto, Dr Valerie Yij, and Dr Waritsara Piyanonpong (Indonesia), Dr Natsuda Sajjachareonpong (Thailand), Dr Stephanie Ng (Hong Kong), and Dr Nadia Kamaluddin (Malaysia).

Finally, CABA orders have continued to grow steadily, particularly in Western Australia and Queensland. We are immensely proud of this initiative- now more than ten years old- which has helped thousands of patients across Australia receive accurate diagnoses and improved care for their skin conditions.





REFLECTIONS FROM DR THOMAS BRASHER, ODREC RESEARCH FELLOW

Dr Thomas Brasher's path to becoming the ODREC Research Fellow at the Skin Health Institute reflects both his longstanding interest in dermatology and his determination to gain meaningful research experience. Having studied and worked in regional Victoria, Thomas found it challenging to access opportunities in both clinical dermatology and research. When he heard about the Fellowship, he immediately recognised it as an ideal role to bridge this gap. "I spoke to a number of people who strongly recommended the Institute as a great place to work. Once I realised that its central location would allow me to commute from outside Geelong while continuing to live there with my wife and two kids, I was eager to apply."

The transition into the Fellowship was smooth and engaging. Before starting, Thomas met with the outgoing ODREC Fellow, Dr Seamus Fuller, who provided insights into the responsibilities and opportunities of the role. "Moving from a primarily clinical role into research has been really enjoyable. I started by learning the ropes of patch test clinics and understanding my research obligations, which helped me settle quickly into the position."

Since beginning the Fellowship, Thomas has found the experience to be highly rewarding. The role has given him valuable exposure to clinical dermatology, providing constant contact with experts across a wide range of subspecialties.

"It has also opened doors to research opportunities that I would have found difficult to access in my previous workplaces. Most importantly, I've thoroughly enjoyed working with the people at SHI, who have been universally welcoming."

For Thomas, the variety of the role is a key highlight. "Every day brings new patients, new puzzles, and new stories. From sitting in on clinics and piecing together causative allergens for patients with longstanding contact dermatitis, to writing up interesting cases and presenting our findings, the diversity keeps the role engaging and fulfilling."

The most rewarding moments, he reflects, have come from seeing the difference patch test clinics can make in patients' lives. "For me, the most meaningful times have been those Friday sessions when long-suffering patients are finally given hope that they may see improvement in their condition. Being part of that journey is incredibly gratifying."

Thomas's time as the ODREC Research Fellow has deepened his commitment to dermatology and strengthened his passion for research, patient-centred care, and collaborative learning. His contributions continue to reflect the Skin Health Institute's mission to advance dermatology through clinical excellence, education, and research.

"For me, the most meaningful times have been those Friday sessions when long-suffering patients are finally given hope that they may see improvement in their condition. Being part of that journey is incredibly gratifying."

EXPLORING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH WITH SKIN HEALTH INSTITUTE FELLOW DR MILAN VAN AMMERS

The path to becoming an Education and Research Fellow at the Skin Health Institute often starts with inspiration from past Fellows. For Dr Milan van Ammers, that inspiration came during Basic Physician Training at Eastern Health, where he worked with Blake Mumford, a former Fellow and now Dermatology trainee. Hearing about Blake's positive experience motivated Milan to apply for the role himself.

Since joining the Institute, Milan has found the fellowship to be "a fantastic experience, full of variety and learning opportunities — no two days are ever the same." His work covers three main areas:

Education: A highlight has been co-hosting the *Spot Diagnosis* podcast with A/Prof Alvin Chong, involving research, scripting, speaking, and editing. "It's pushed me out of my comfort zone and developed my public speaking skills," he says.

Clinical work: Milan attends four clinics a week and has rotated through almost every subspecialty clinic at the Institute. He also manages the Transplant Clinic database, ensuring accurate data collection and patient follow-up.

Research: Under the guidance of Director of Clinical Research Sarah Chivers, Milan has contributed to clinical trials, gaining insight into the planning and teamwork required to bring new treatments to patients.

What stands out most for Milan is the supportive culture at the Institute. "Alvin has been incredibly supportive with the podcast. Liz, our Clinical Director, has made sure I've had a wide range of clinical opportunities. Sarah guided me through my first research steps, and every dermatologist has been generous with their time and expertise. The nursing, admin, and education teams have all been cheerful and supportive, it's a very collaborative environment."

A standout moment was interviewing oncologist and author Dr Ranjana Srivastava OAM for *Spot Diagnosis*. "We decided to do it unscripted, and I was nervous, but it became one of the most insightful conversations I've had. I still draw on her advice in my daily practice."

For Milan, the fellowship has been a period of significant growth – personally, professionally, and academically. His contributions across education, clinical care, and research reflect the Skin Health Institute's mission to advance dermatology through excellence in patient care, education, and innovation.

"The nursing, admin, and education teams have all been cheerful and supportive, it's a very collaborative environment."



EDUCATION & PARTNERSHIPS

Over the past financial year, the Skin Health Institute has strengthened its partnerships while expanding its national presence and educational impact. A key development in our strategic direction has been a shift towards high-end, curated events – reflecting the growing demand for specialised, tailored experiences. This focus has shaped our 2025 partner offerings and enabled us to deliver initiatives of exceptional quality and reach.

A clear highlight was the launch of our international speaker series, with world-renowned dermatologist Professor John McGrath visiting Australia in May. This inaugural roadshow spanned Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth, with every dinner event reaching capacity and waitlists in multiple cities demonstrating the appetite for high-calibre, in-person education.

We also proudly delivered our fourth consecutive Pillars of Dermatology Symposium, a standout on the SHI calendar. Once again, this cross-disciplinary meeting brought together dermatologists and rheumatologists to explore emerging therapies and collaborative care models. We thank our valued partner, Novartis, for their continued support of this important initiative.

Our commitment to registrar education remains strong. The Registrar Biologics Masterclass, now in its eighth year, was once again fully subscribed, with special thanks to Sun Pharma for their ongoing partnership. We were also delighted to welcome LEO Pharma as a major sponsor of our registrar education program. In November, we hosted a special cocktail evening at the Melbourne Museum to thank our speakers and celebrate this program's success with our registrars.

Education continues to be a cornerstone of the Institute, supporting dermatologists, trainees, medical students, GPs, nurses, and allied health professionals. SHI also maintained a strong presence at the Australasian College of Dermatologists' Annual Scientific Meeting (ACD/ASM) in Brisbane, reinforcing our reputation as a leader in dermatology education and engagement.

This year also saw internal growth, with Carolyn Dimech stepping into the newly created Director of Partnerships and Events role, underscoring our commitment to innovation, excellence, and stakeholder engagement. None of these achievements would have been possible without the invaluable support of our partners, whose collaboration continues to drive our mission to empower healthcare professionals and improve patient outcomes worldwide.



INTERNAL EDUCATION

Clinical Meetings

The Institute continued its support of the Victorian Faculty of the Australasian College of Dermatologists through the coordination of their Clinical Meetings.

These meetings provide a valuable forum for patient reviews and case presentations, fostering peer discussion, collaborative learning, diagnostic refinement, and shared treatment outcomes.

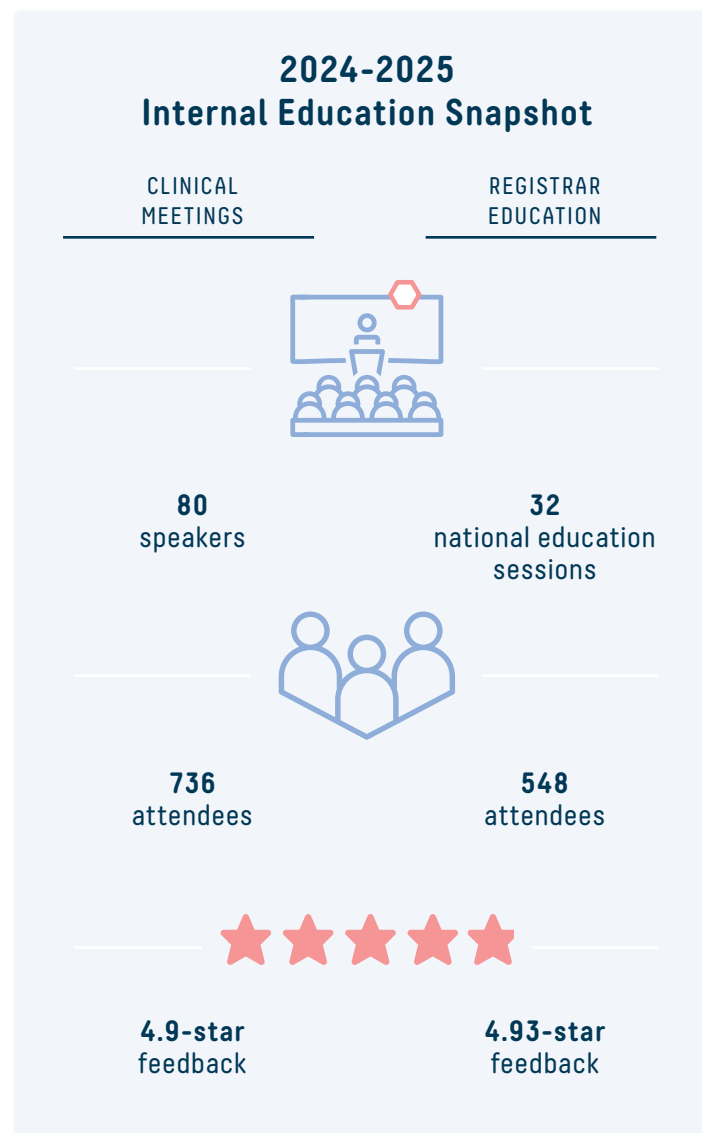
Over the past financial year, we facilitated eight Clinical Meetings held across various hospitals, including Eastern, Northern, Western Hospitals, The Royal Melbourne and Royal Children's Hospitals, St Vincent's, Alfred, Monash, Austin Hospital, and the Skin Health Institute and a specialised genetics session led by Professor Ingrid Winship.

Engagement from the Victorian Faculty remained strong, with each meeting attracting active participation and contributing to improved medical outcomes for the patients involved.

Registrar quizzing remained an integral part of the meetings, taking place either prior to or during the week leading up to each session. This initiative continues to support registrar exam preparation and enhance diagnostic skills.

Across the eight sessions which ran for nineteen and a half hours, a total of 80 speakers presented to 736 attendees, with the program receiving an average feedback rating of 4.9 out of 5.

Sessions were held as five virtual, two virtual and one in-person providing a variety of opportunities to attend.



Registrar Education

Throughout the year, the Institute maintained our commitment to supporting the Australasian College of Dermatology by providing an immersive and diverse clinical training environment for Victorian dermatology registrars. Our sub-specialty clinics offer a rich training environment, including the opportunity to develop skills around private billing.

The Skin Health Institute prides itself on its collegiality and dedication to supporting registrars through their training along with the generous fellows who donate their time to educate through our Skin School program.

We continued to provide the supplementary Skin Schools to complement the College's formal education program. Over 32 national education sessions were held over the year with 546 overall attendees, sessions were held predominantly online and after hours and received an overall average feedback score of 4.93.

On top of the live education sessions, the Institute continues to grow our registrar specific learning management system which now houses over 90 resources for national dermatology registrars to access to support their study requirements.

Medical Students

Since the pandemic, the Skin Health Institute has assisted with the 'Victorian Faculty of ACD Medical Student Prize'. Medical students from Deakin, Melbourne, Monash and Notre Dame Universities who have an interest in dermatology are eligible to sit a written exam followed by VIVA's for the top candidates from each university.

Examiners Dr Jack Green, Dr Senhong (Isaac) Lee, Dr Joshua Elakis and Chief Examiner Dr Anita Lasocki were pleased to award the winners their certificates and prize at The Royal Children's Hospital Clinical Meeting. Congratulations to:

- Hieu Chi Ha
- Hei Lam Germaine Kong
- Eden Mane
- Christopher Sparks

Journal Clubs and Nurse Education

The Education team continued to support professional development across our clinics—including Transplant, SKASSES, and Mohs—through a combination of in-person and online Journal Clubs. Our Nurse Lunch and Learn series also provided valuable learning opportunities tailored specifically for our nursing staff, reflecting the Institute's strong commitment to ongoing education and clinical excellence.

Advanced Targeted Therapeutics Portal

Launched in February 2022, the Advanced Targeted Therapeutics Portal (ATEP) continues to be a vital resource for healthcare professionals. We are committed to expanding and refining its offerings to ensure it remains both comprehensive and up to date with a major refresh scheduled for early 2026.

The portal currently hosts 17 drug information pages, with additional content in development, and has attracted a steadily growing community of 1,116 subscribers. To maintain accuracy and relevance, we work in close collaboration with pharmaceutical partners and specialist nurses to ensure advanced therapy data is regularly updated.

We are also focused on enriching the portal with new content, including the latest news and articles, providing subscribers with ongoing opportunities for professional learning and development.



Spot Diagnosis, now in its seventh season

Spot Diagnosis, our podcast exploring dermatological cases commonly seen in general practice, has now surpassed 100,000 global downloads. Designed to provide evidence-based, up-to-date medical education, the series helps clinicians enhance their skills in managing skin conditions and ultimately improve community skin health.

To date, listeners from 141 countries have tuned in, with the largest audience in Australia (68,560 downloads), followed by the United States (11,942), United Kingdom (5,912), Canada (4,170), India (1,512), and New Zealand (1,173). The podcast now has 628 subscribers and averages 1,528 downloads per episode.

Spot Diagnosis is RACGP and ACRRM CPD-accredited, enabling GPs to claim CPD hours simply by listening. It has also been included on the recommended resources lists of several medical schools.

With season six completed and season seven underway, we are proud of the podcast's outstanding growth and the positive feedback we continue to receive from GPs, medical students, nurses, and pharmacists.

*Pictured:
A/Prof Alvin Chong, Dr Laxmi
Iyengar and A/Prof Chris
Baker recording the Spot
Diagnosis Podcast episode on
Photosensitivity*



PARTNERSHIPS

The support of our dedicated sponsors, partners, community groups and companies is critical to our work. We would like to thank our partners for the ongoing support of the Institute.

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Supporters

We are deeply thankful for the generosity of our donors and supporters, whose contributions have been instrumental in advancing our mission to improve skin health and dermatological care. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our donors from our patients, staff, and member communities, including those who provided salary donations, recurring contributions, or one-time gifts.

A special acknowledgment goes to The F & E Bauer Foundation for their invaluable support. Each of our contributors has helped us achieve lasting impact on the lives of countless individuals and families.

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FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2024–2025

Overview

FY2024–25 delivered a strong financial result and further consolidated the turnaround achieved in the prior year. The Institute recorded a surplus of **\$549,513**, supported by robust operating income growth, disciplined cost management, and ongoing cash flow improvements that reduced interest costs on the business loan facility. A land and building revaluation recognised through other comprehensive income added **\$576,958** to equity, taking the total comprehensive income to **\$1,126,471**. These results underscore continued progress toward sustainable financial performance.

Revenue

Operating revenue increased to **\$10.67 million**, driven primarily by:

- Clinical services growth – expanded clinic and surgery activity, improved cancellation management, and renegotiated contracts with private health funds.
- Clinical trials outperformance – new clinical trials and strong recruitment activity.

Expenditure

Operating expenditure was well controlled. Efficiency measures and targeted redundancies implemented over the past two years continued to produce savings, with full-year benefits realised in FY2024–25. Energy costs were mitigated by the completion of the solar panels project, which reduced electricity usage by 30%. Expenses for consultants (non-medical) and professional services decreased by 25% compared to the prior year.

Cashflow

Net cash provided by operating activities over the year was **\$705,957**. This improved operating cash generation helped offset interest payable on the business loan facility and supported necessary capital investments.

Equity

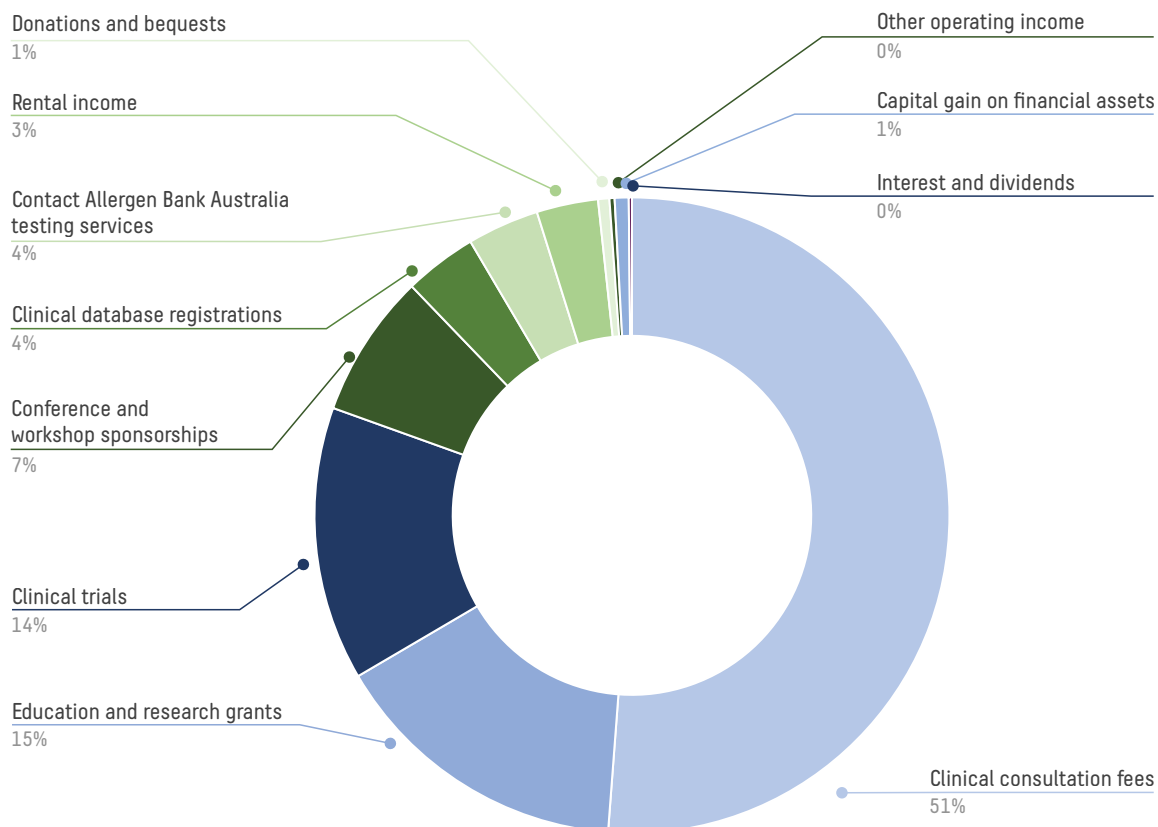
The business loan facility was presented as a current liability as of 30 June 2025; however, the loan was subsequently extended for three years after the reporting date. As of 30 June 2025, total assets increased, and total liabilities decreased, compared to the prior year. Total equity increased to **\$11.12m**, reflecting the combined effect of the operating surplus and building revaluation uplift.

Three-year trend (FY2023–FY2025)

1. Total comprehensive income moved from (\$268,967) (FY2023) to \$141,646 (FY2024) and \$1,126,471 (FY2025) with the FY2025 revaluation uplift.
2. The annual net surplus improved from a (\$268,967) deficit (FY2023) to a \$141,646 surplus (FY2024) and a \$549,513 surplus (FY2025).
3. Net assets strengthened from \$9.85m (FY2023) to \$9.99m (FY2024) and \$11.12m (FY2025) – a three-year increase of ~13%.

INCOME

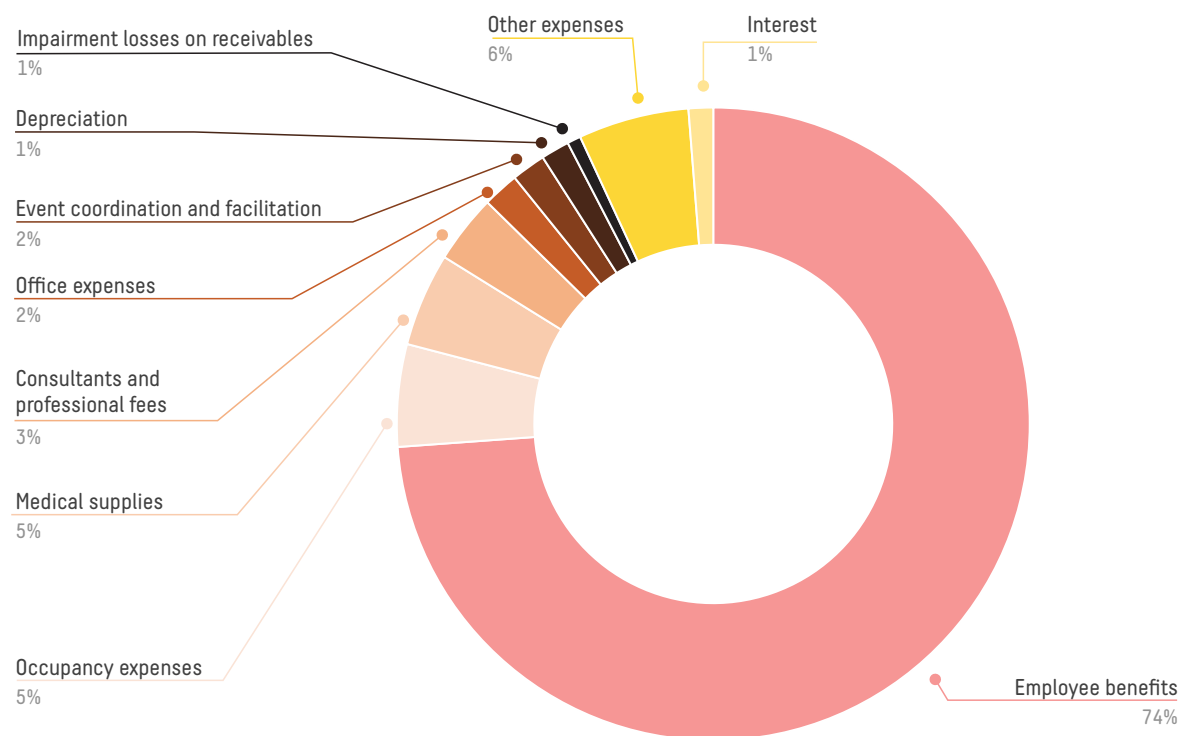
CLINICAL CONSULTATION FEES	\$5,509,523	51%
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH GRANTS	\$1,652,695	15%
CLINICAL TRIALS	\$1,497,905	14%
CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP SPONSORSHIPS	\$787,451	7%
CLINICAL DATABASE REGISTRATIONS	\$398,618	4%
CONTACT ALLERGEN BANK AUSTRALIA TESTING SERVICES	\$393,335	4%
RENTAL INCOME	\$336,930	3%
DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS	\$61,804	1%
OTHER OPERATING INCOME	\$28,176	0%
CAPITAL GAIN ON FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$76,574	1%
INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS	\$17,352	0%
TOTAL	\$10,760,363	



EXPENSES

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$7,539,826	74%
OCCUPANCY EXPENSES	\$533,371	5%
MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$487,635	5%
CONSULTANTS AND PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$358,218	4%
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$188,915	2%
EVENT COORDINATION AND FACILITATION	\$178,082	2%
DEPRECIATION	\$148,326	1%
IMPAIRMENT LOSSES ON RECEIVABLES	\$70,916	1%
OTHER EXPENSES	\$577,538	6%
INTEREST	\$128,023	1%
TOTAL	\$10,210,850	

(NOTE: PERCENTAGES DO NOT TOTAL 100 DUE TO ROUNDING)



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