

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 20 February, 2009

CEREBRAL PALSY REGISTERS – VITAL FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Medical registers, such as organ donor and cancer registers provide a vital platform for research into epidemiology and causal pathways, as well as monitoring interventions and their outcomes. And so it is for cerebral palsy registers. The more people and patients who enroll in these medical surveillance programs and databases the better they will work for current and future research.

For the first time, representatives from all cerebral palsy registers from around the world will meet at the 3rd International Cerebral Palsy Conference in Sydney (18-21 February 2009).

One long term goal is to create a comprehensive world cerebral palsy register. Such a register would generate new and powerful prevention and treatment strategies for cerebral palsy.

Australia's first state cerebral palsy register was created in Western Australia in 1971 by Professor Fiona Stanley AC (researcher and former Australian of the year who discovered the link between folate and spina bifida) and it has yielded much for cerebral palsy research in Australia. The Australian Cerebral Palsy Register was launched in 2007 and is considered a significant advance in strengthening global research.

Enroll at www.cpreregister-aus.com.au .

*****ENDS*****

Available for Interview

- Iona Novak or Sarah McIntyre via the CP Institute, Sydney (www.cpreregister-aus.com.au)
- Professor Fiona Stanley

MEDIA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE

What: 3rd International Cerebral Palsy Conference (the largest of its kind in the world)
When: Wednesday 18th to Saturday 21st February 2009
Where: Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, MEDIA ACCREDITATION, ABSTRACTS OR TO OBTAIN A PROGRAM FOR THE CONFERENCE, PLEASE CONTACT:

Liz Foy – General Manager, Service Development – 02 9479 7280 / 0419 405 181
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Facts about the Cerebral Palsy Institute

- Researching prevention and curative strategies for cerebral palsy
- Custodians of the Australian Cerebral Palsy Register to monitor trends
- Funding targeted cerebral palsy research through the Cerebral Palsy Institute Grants Program

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