

Professor David Hunter

MBBS (Hons), MSc (Clin Epi), M SpMed, PhD, FRACP (Rheum)

Professor David Hunter is a world-leading rheumatology clinician scientist, whose research has contributed to a paradigm shift in the way osteoarthritis (OA) is managed in Australia and internationally.

He is the Florance and Cope Chair of Rheumatology, Professor of Medicine and Chair of the Osteoarthritis Research Program at University of Sydney and a staff specialist at Royal North Shore Hospital.

Inspired by some wonderful school teachers, his family, patients, team and students, as well as his own innate restless, inquisitive nature, he has devoted his career to improving the lives of patients with OA.

Professor Hunter leads an internationally-renowned translational research program that has pioneered novel interventions in 25 randomised controlled trials (RCTs). This has provided high-quality evidence to support new non-pharmacologic interventions (such as bracing and weight loss), as well as pharmacologic interventions (such as long-acting steroid injections and disease-modifying therapies interventions) in OA management.

This research has more than 22,500 citations and has significantly influenced many fields beyond rheumatology, including engineering, immunology, biochemistry and genetics.

Professor Hunter has more than 500 peer-reviewed publications in international journals, and high-quality evidence from his trials has been incorporated into clinical guidelines, including the leading international guidelines (Osteoarthritis Research Society International).

The way we manage osteoarthritis in Australia has been shaped by his research program, with its policy and clinical management changes forming the basis of the National Osteoarthritis Strategy.

For the past decade, he has led the development of the OA Chronic Care Program in NSW, which has been adopted for use in every NSW local health district due to its health and economic benefits.

Professor Hunter is also driving the development of a new model of tertiary level multidisciplinary, coordinated care that is now deployed at all public hospitals in NSW, impacting the care of 30,000 patients since its inception.

His chronic disease management program is part of the Joint Effort Initiative, an international collaboration that is changing OA practice across 11 countries, including US, UK, Canada.

He is passionate about training the next generation and increasing musculoskeletal research capacity, with his 'typical' day involving guiding the clinical research team, supervising students, seeing patients and writing grants or papers.

Professor Hunter is supported by a highly-talented multidisciplinary team and has built an extensive international collaborative network in Australia and globally: over the last five years, he has published papers with 1092 unique collaborating authors, of whom 74% were international.

He is also a visiting professor at University of Queensland and University of Melbourne, where he plays mentorship and collaborative roles, and is a visiting professor at three Chinese universities.

He is ranked as the leading expert in the world on osteoarthritis on [expertscape.com](https://www.expertscape.com) and is OA section editor for UpToDate, a resource used by 1.7 million clinicians worldwide. He also

led the development of an online consumer-focused platform called *MyJointPain*, that aims to facilitate informed management of OA.