

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE WIN THE LIFE SCIENCES WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AWARD 2018?



Dr Tanja Miokovic

**Women's Health & Continence Physiotherapist, Mater
Health Services; Betty McGrath Research Fellow,
Mater Research Institute**

My research focus is to minimise dysfunction of the musculoskeletal system during pregnancy, thereby optimising comfort and functional capacity in the ante- and post-natal period. My Betty McGrath fellowship project investigates the effect of pregnancy on postural trunk muscle (pelvic floor, abdominal, spinal) morphology and function and its relationship to the development of stress urinary incontinence, low back pain and pelvic girdle pain.

It is my vision to transform antenatal care by integrating Ultrasound imaging technology into an innovative, comprehensive musculoskeletal screening program, to identify early changes in these muscles. This has potential to prevent onset and/or improve management of the aforementioned conditions, known to have ongoing sequela throughout the female lifespan.

Success in this application will support my travel to the 2019 International Continence Society Conference in Sweden to disseminate my research amongst the broader scientific community and provide unrivalled networking and collaboration opportunities with experts in this field.