

PRESENTERS FOR SYMPOSIUM 3:
Inflammation and immunity: New frontiers for the treatment
of cardiovascular and neurological diseases

Professor Alex Bobik, Head, Vascular Biology and Atherosclerosis, Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute



Alex Bobik is an Associate Director (AMBU) and Head of the Vascular Biology and Atherosclerosis Laboratory at BakerIDI Heart and Diabetes Institute and a Professor in the Departments of Immunology and Medicine, Monash University. He is a Fellow of the American Heart Association and member of the editorial boards of twelve cardiovascular journals including Arteriosclerosis Thrombosis and Vascular Biology and Cardiovascular Research. He has published 230 papers on hypertension, vascular remodelling and atherosclerosis. His current research is on cytokines, immune cells and atherosclerosis and has made major contributions to understanding how cytokines, T cells and B cells affect atherosclerosis.

Prof Bernhard Baune, Chair of Psychiatry, University of Adelaide



Prof Bernhard Baune (PhD, MD, MPH, FRANZCP) is a Clinician and Researcher and holds the position of Chair of Psychiatry at the University of Adelaide since Jan 2011. Prof Baune's research emphasis is on Psychiatric Neuroscience and Molecular Psychiatry fostering the integration of Neuroscience and Clinical research. An area of major research activity includes the role of the immune system relevant to neuropsychiatric disorders and mood disorders, cognitive dysfunction and medical comorbidities in particular. Prof Baune has extensive international research experience and belongs to the leading researchers in the field of Neuroimmunology in Depression and Cognitive Dysfunction.

Dr Trent Woodruff, School of Biomedical Sciences, The University of Queensland



Dr Woodruff is an ARC Future Fellow and Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology, conducting research into the innate immune system in the brain, in both health and disease. His specific research revolves around the complement System, and its major activation fragments, C3a and C5a. Complement C5a is one of the most potent inflammatory molecules known, and inflammation is increasingly implicated in the progression of neurodegenerative disease. His laboratory is investigating the effects of C5a in several models of neurodegenerative disease, including motor neuron disease and Parkinson's disease, by using specific C5a receptor antagonists, and novel transgenic mice and tools developed by his group.

Dr Morag Young, Cardiovascular Endocrinology, Prince Henry's Institute



Dr Young heads the Cardiovascular Endocrinology Laboratory at PHI having joined PHI in 2002 following a CJ Martin Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Baker Institute of Medical Research and the laboratory of Dr. Keith Parker at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre, Dallas, Texas, USA. Her research focus addresses the cell-specific role of mineralocorticoid hormones and their receptors in the cardiovascular system in an effort to identify new treatments for cardiovascular disease and hypertension that preserve normal renal function.