

Symposium 7: Drug safety-clinical pharmacology at the epicentre

Dr Yoon Loke, University of East Anglia, UK



Dr Yoon K Loke is Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology at the University of East Anglia, and Co-Convenor of the Cochrane Adverse Effects Methods Group. He has extensive experience in conducting systematic reviews of adverse effects, and is the lead author of Chapter 14 in the Cochrane Handbook of Systematic Reviews. His main interests are in assessing harmful effects from drugs such as the proton pump inhibitors, thiazolidinediones, and inhalers for airway disease. He also serves as Deputy Chair of the National Institute of Health Research Health Technology Assessment Pharmaceuticals Panel, and European Editor for the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology. Dr Loke's main interest is on how systematic review methodology can be used to answer clinically relevant questions on the adverse effects of medication.

Prof Elizabeth Phillips, Murdoch University



Elizabeth Phillips, MD, FRCPC, FRACP is a researcher and clinician who runs programs in drug hypersensitivity at the Institute for Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Murdoch University and Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth, Western Australia. She earned her MD from the University of Alberta with fellowships in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Clinical Pharmacology and Medical Microbiology from the University of Toronto. Research has focused on drug hypersensitivity, HIV pharmacology and the widespread application of pharmacogenetic testing to clinical practice. The research on abacavir hypersensitivity which has created a road map for the application of pharmacogenetic tests from discovery through to clinical translation. Current research is focusing on elucidating the immunopathogenesis of drug hypersensitivity reactions pre-clinical pharmacogenomic screening strategies to inform drug development and design.

Prof David Le Couteur, The University of Sydney



David Le Couteur is Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Sydney, Director of the Centre for Education and Research on Ageing (CERA), Director of the Biogerontology Laboratory of the ANZAC Medical Research Institute and Senior Staff Specialist Physician in Geriatric Medicine at the Concord RG Hospital in Sydney. He is president of the Australasian Society for Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT). His current research focuses on the effects of old age on liver pharmacology and physiology; the discovery of age-related pseudocapillarization of the liver sinusoid and its effects on liver metabolism and drug clearance; and his clinical interest relates to geriatric pharmacology and the application of evidence based medicine to older people.

Dr Kathlyn Ronaldson, Monash University



Dr Kathlyn Ronaldson is a Senior Research Fellow in Drug Epidemiology in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University. In recent years she has been using a case-control design to investigate clozapine-induced and myocarditis. This methodology has permitted characterisation of the adverse reaction, development of a monitoring protocol and identification of risk factors. She also has an interest in regulatory processes and spontaneous reporting having spent 17 years working in adverse drug reactions for the regulator first in New Zealand and then in Australia. She has a PhD in chemistry from Waikato University, Hamilton, New Zealand and an MPH from Monash University.