



# APSA - ASCEPT JOINT SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2015

Drugs to medicines: up close and personal

29 November - 2 December 2015 • Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart

## Symposium 1: Misuse of pharmaceuticals and herbal medications: Epidemiology and implication

### Professor Nicholas Buckley, The University of Sydney



Nick Buckley is Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at the Sydney Medical School, a consultant clinical toxicologist at the NSW Poisons Information Centre, President of The Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology, Research Director of the South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration (SACTRC) and Chair of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Australian Medicines Handbook. He has published over a dozen clinical and epidemiological studies on pharmaceutical poisoning & misuse; other interests include developing world toxicology, in particular pesticide poisoning and snakebite.

### Dr Natasa Gisev, University of New South Wales



Dr Natasa Gisev is an NHMRC Early Career Research Fellow based at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC), University of New South Wales. Her main area of research expertise and interest is in pharmacoepidemiology and the use of linked administrative data to examine the patterns and outcomes associated with medicines use in complex populations. She was awarded her PhD in 2013, which focused on evaluating the quality use of psychotropic medicines among older adults and those with psychotic disorders. Following this, she worked as a post-doctoral research fellow on a large NHMRC-funded data linkage project which aimed to determine the impact of opioid substitution therapy on crime and mortality among prisoners. She is currently working on a number of projects examining the pharmacoepidemiology of opioid medicines to identify the potential burden, risks and harms associated with use of these medicines in the Australian population.

### Dr Ian Musgrave, The University of Adelaide



Dr Musgrave is a molecular pharmacologist / toxicologist who works at the University of Adelaide, Australia. He has a broad interest in neurodegeneration, natural product pharmacology and drug design and is convenor of the Toxicology Special Interest Group of the Australasian Society for Pharmacology and Toxicology. Postdoctoral work at the Institute of Pharmacology at the Free University of Berlin in 1991-1994 was followed by a return to Australia, where he collaborated with Professor John Carver, Dr. Scot Smid and Professor Colin Barrow on using natural products to attack neurodegeneration. He is currently collaborating with Professors Roger Byard and Michael Bunce on an NHMRC funded project on adulteration and contamination of herbal medicines.

### Associate Professor Belinda Lloyd, Monash University



Dr Belinda Lloyd is Associate Professor of Addiction Studies at Monash University and Head of Research and Workforce Development at Turning Point, Eastern Health. She leads epidemiological projects involving alcohol and drug and mental health research focusing on prevention, risk behaviours, harms associated with alcohol and other drug use, and harm minimisation. Belinda has worked in both government and academic settings, where she has co-ordinated numerous projects involving large data collections, analysis and interpretation. Belinda's PhD involved analysis of a large longitudinal birth cohort, and examined patterns of mental health and behaviour over the life course. Belinda is a regular presenter at national and international conferences on epidemiological research relating to mental health and alcohol and other drugs.



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## Symposium 2: Discovery and development of novel anti-fibrotic therapies

### Dr Yuan (Michael) Zhang, The University of Melbourne



Dr. Yuan (Michael) Zhang originally trained as a physician in China before moving to Australia and completing a Grad Dip in Immunology at Monash University and a PhD at the University of Melbourne. He has 15 years of research experience in the field of chronic kidney and heart disease, with a strong focus on pathogenesis of renal and cardiac inflammation and fibrosis, as well as the development of novel anti-inflammatory and anti-fibrotic therapeutics. Dr. Zhang has made contributions to the successful pre-clinical program led the sale of Fibrotech Therapeutics and its' compounds to Shire Pharmaceuticals, highlighting his research integrity and expertise in targeted pharmaceutical development, as well as successful preclinical translation.

### Associate Professor Ross Vlahos, RMIT University



Associate Professor Ross Vlahos is a Principal Research Fellow and Head of the Respiratory Research Group in the School of Health Sciences, RMIT University. His research aims to identify novel strategies for the prevention and treatment of chronic lung diseases, with a focus on oxidant-dependent mechanisms that underpin cigarette smoke-induced lung inflammation and damage. Ross has co-authored more than 70 publications in peer reviewed journals, has had continuous NHMRC funding since 2001 and has played a major role in commercially funded work that has confidentiality/patent agreements. He has served on NHMRC Grant Review Panels, various conference committees and Chaired sessions at international meetings.

### Associate Professor Chrishan Samuel, Monash University



Chrishan is a NHMRC Senior Research Fellow and Head of the Fibrosis Laboratory, Department of Pharmacology, Monash University. He is also an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Melbourne. He has over 110 career publications and his research interests are focused on establishing novel therapeutic strategies for fibrosis particularly associated with cardiovascular and renal disease. Since 2002, he has had continuous support of his work from various funding bodies including the NHMRC, ARC, NHFA and a number of commercial and philanthropic sources.

### Dr Tracey Gaspari, Monash University



Tracey Gaspari is a vascular and cardiac pharmacologist whose research focuses on the renin angiotensin system and cardiovascular disease. She leads research focused on understanding the role of Insulin Regulated Aminopeptidase (IRAP) / AT<sub>4</sub> receptor in cardiovascular disease and is based within the Integrative Cardiovascular Group at Monash University.

Tracey has a long standing interest in the mechanisms underlying blood vessel dysfunction, atherogenesis and cardiac fibrosis in cardiovascular disease. She has been instrumental in elucidating the athero-protective and plaque stabilizing role of non-AT1 receptors, including the AT2 receptor (AT2R) and Ang (1-7)/Mas receptor highlighting the potential therapeutic advantages of developing selective agonists for these receptors. She is particularly interested in the less well-known arm of the RAS that incorporates the small angiotensin peptide, angiotensin IV and its endogenous binding site, the AT4R now known as the enzyme insulin regulated aminopeptidase (IRAP). Her work is now aimed at defining the cellular/molecular mechanisms of anti-fibrotic effects of IRAP inhibition that may involve multiple pathways to influence extracellular matrix deposition, including immune system/inflammation and level of IRAP expression- all of which will confirm IRAP inhibition as a novel therapeutic strategy.



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## Symposium 3: Pharmacokinetic challenges to drug development and clinical implementation

### Dr Vidya Perera, Bristol-Myers Squibb



Vidya Perera is an early career pharmaceutical scientist currently working in the Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacometrics Department at Bristol Myers Squibb in the United States. Following completion of his PhD in Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Sydney, Vidya completed his international

postdoctoral training at several research facilities including The State University of New York at Buffalo in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Novartis Dept. of Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics and Western New York Veteran Affairs Hospital. Vidya has published several manuscripts in Clinical Pharmacology and is a recipient of the NHMRC Early Career Fellowship.

### Prof Andrew McLachlan, University of Sydney



Andrew McLachlan is the Program Director of the NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in *Medicines and Ageing*, and Professor of Pharmacy (Aged Care) at the Faculty of Pharmacy and at Concord Hospital's *Centre for Education and Research on Ageing*. He is a pharmacist,

academic and researcher experienced in clinical and experimental pharmacology and research on the quality use of medicines. His research focuses on understanding the variability in response to medicines and how this can be managed to optimise patient care, particularly in special patient populations such as older people, the very young and the critically ill. Andrew is Chair of the Sydney Local Health District Human Research Ethics Committee and the Drug and Therapeutics Committee, and past President of the *Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA)*. He currently serves on expert committees of the Therapeutic Goods Administration on medicines and the Australian Government on antidoping, and was appointed the inaugural Chair of the National Medicines Policy Committee (2009-2013) by the Minister for Health and Ageing. He was awarded *Pharmacist of the Year* (2006) by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and received the 2013 APSA medal. Andrew is an Executive Editor of the *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*.

### Associate Professor Howard Gurney, Westmead Hospital



Professor Howard Gurney is the Director of Medical Oncology and Clinical Trials at Macquarie University and Director of Clinical Research in Medical Oncology at Westmead Hospital. Dr Gurney has a firm background in clinical research and has subspecialty interests in uro-genital cancers

including prostate, bladder, testis and kidney cancer. He has been principle investigator for over 150 clinical trials and has published over 80 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. Current research interests include the pharmacogenomics and therapeutic monitoring of chemotherapy and targeted therapies and he has published widely in this area. He is regarded as a leading authority on mechanisms for safe dosing of anticancer agents and has written a number of invited editorials on this topic for *Lancet Oncology* and the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

### Dr Bill Smith, Gilead Sciences



Bill received a B.S. in Pharmacy from the University of Utah, a Ph.D. in Pharm/Tox from the University of Arizona and completed post-doctoral training at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Bill then joined the pharmaceutical

industry where he has spent the past 20 year in a variety of DMPK roles to support drug discovery and development. While working at Pfizer he supported several programs that became marketed drugs which included Chantix (varenicline), Inlyta (axitinib) and Xalkori (crizotinib). Bill currently leads the Drug Metabolism group at Gilead Sciences in Foster City, CA. He is the co-author of 40 research articles, Associate Editor of *Drug Metabolism and Disposition* and past president of the International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics (ISSX).



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## Symposium 4: Recent advances and therapeutic developments in purinergic signalling

### Professor Simon Brookes, Flinders University



Simon Brookes was awarded his PhD from Bristol University (UK) for studies on insect nervous system, then carried out postdoctoral research on the enteric nervous system at the Royal London Hospital. He then moved to Flinders University and was later awarded a Senior

Research Fellowship from the Gastroenterological Society of Australia, then a Senior Research Fellowship from the NHMRC. He became Head of Human Physiology in 2005 and runs a small research group focussing on how simple neural circuits work in the gut. He has specific interests in how autonomic nerve cells give rise to the motor activity of the gastrointestinal tract and how visceral sensory neurons mediate sensations from the gut and bladder. He works in close collaboration with like-minded researchers at Flinders University including Marcello Costa, Nick Spencer, David Wattchow, Vladimir Zagorodnyuk, Phil Dinning, John Arkwright, Lukasz Wiklendt and Taher Omari.

### Associate Professor Kylie Mansfield, University of Wollongong



Associate Professor Kylie Mansfield is a physiologist from the University of Wollongong where she is director of the medical curriculum. Her research into the effect of infection and inflammation on urothelial ATP release and bladder function in

patients with urge incontinence has provided evidence for a current clinical trial into the effects of antibiotics in patients with refractory Detrusor Overactivity.

### Dr Sab Ventura, Monash University



Sab obtained his PhD in Pharmacology from Monash University in 1992. He has held research positions at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, University of Melbourne, University College London and Monash University. He was appointed as a Senior Lecturer (Teaching & Research)

at Monash University in 2004 and maintains this position in the Drug Discovery Biology Theme of the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Monash University's Parkville Campus. Sab has co-authored 73 publications and his research investigates the pharmacology of male reproductive organs with a view to identifying novel therapeutic targets for male contraception and the treatment of prostate disorders.

### Professor Russ Chess-Williams, Bond University



Russ Chess-Williams is Professor of Pharmacology and Director of the Centre for Urology Research at the Faculty of Health Sciences & Medicine, Bond University on the Gold Coast, Australia. He was previously senior lecturer at the University of Sheffield, UK. His

main interests are the characterisation of receptors and second messenger systems within the lower urinary tract and changes during disease. He was involved in the early pre-clinical studies with several compounds now in common clinical use including tamsulosin (Flowmax), solifenacin (Vesicare) and mirabegron (Betmiga). His recent studies have investigated the role of the urothelium in regulating bladder function, efferent and afferent innervation of the lower urinary tract and the interactions between second messenger systems.



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## Symposium 5: Influence of impaired kidney function on drug disposition and response

### Dr Darren Roberts, Australian National University Medical School; The Canberra Hospital



Darren Roberts is a physician working in both clinical pharmacology/toxicology and nephrology in Sydney and Canberra, and an Associate Professor at the Australian National University. He is the current chair of the clinical pharmacology Special Interest Group and a member of various national and international government, professional and clinical committees. His research interests include pharmacokinetics and drug dosing in impaired renal function, influence of dialysis on xenobiotic clearance and evidence-based clinical toxicology.

### Professor Jason Roberts, The University of Queensland



Professor Jason Roberts is a consultant clinical pharmacist with a strong interest in addressing the discordant poor outcomes of infected critically ill patients. Jason started his research pathway 10 years ago and has worked clinically throughout. In 2015 he was made an European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Young Investigator Awardee and in 2012, he was given the Australian Clinical Pharmacy Award by the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. He has a strong interest in clinical and research mentoring and enjoys the opportunity to interact with many like-minded people to share ideas on how to best treat infections in difficult-to-treat patients like the critically ill. Jason has >200 publications in peer reviewed journals. He works at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and The University of Queensland.

### Dr Xin Liu, The University of Queensland



Xin Liu was awarded her PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from National University of Singapore in 2006. After short working experience in a drug discovery company, she started her post-doctoral research in School of Medicine, The University of Queensland. Her research interests include: 1) drug disposition in liver and kidney diseases; 2) pharmacokinetics and toxicity of nanoparticles; 3) mathematic modelling of skin penetration. Currently, she is actively engaged in utilizing of high-resolution in vivo imaging techniques for pharmacokinetic and drug transporter function studies.

### Associate Professor Andrew Udy, Alfred Hospital; Monash University



Andrew is a full-time intensive care clinician and researcher at The Alfred ICU (Melbourne, VIC). He completed his undergraduate medical education at the University of Auckland, followed by ICU training in New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Australia.

After award of Fellowship, Andrew worked as a consultant for many years in Queensland, while also completing a PhD in antibiotic pharmacokinetics. His major academic interests include optimised drug prescribing in the critically ill, haemodynamic management in severe sepsis, acute kidney injury and renal replacement therapy, management of subarachnoid haemorrhage, and critical care nutrition. Andrew is convening the inaugural Monash University – Alfred ICU Science and Art of Intensive Care Research Course. He also a keen educator; instructing on BASIC, ALS, ECMO and EMST courses, and is Deputy Chair of the Victorian Regional Committee, College of Intensive Care Medicine.



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## Symposium 6: Novel approaches for delivery of biologics

### Dr Lisa Kaminskas, Monash University



Lisa Kaminskas is a senior drug delivery scientist and NHMRC Career Development Fellow at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS). Her research is focused on understanding how chemotherapeutic drugs and therapeutic proteins can be best formulated and delivered to optimize exposure to solid and disseminated cancers, while minimizing systemic exposure and off-target toxicity. Her main interest is improving the treatment of lymphatic metastases and lung-resident cancers which are largely resistant to conventional intravenous chemotherapy.

### Professor Colin Pouton, Monash University



Professor Colin Pouton is based at Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), where he is Theme Leader: Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, one of four major themes within the institute. He relocated from the University of Bath (UK) to Monash University in 2001. He has research interests in three fields: 1) Absorption of poorly water-soluble drugs from the gastrointestinal tract; 2) Design of gene delivery systems for in vivo application, and 3) Differentiation of brain cells (neurons, astrocytes and microglia) from pluripotent stem cells, and their use in disease modelling and drug discovery. His work on gene delivery is focussed on mechanisms of action of nucleic acid vaccines, and their uses in cancer immunotherapy and treatment of infectious diseases. Specifically, the work aims to improve the efficiency of 'non-viral' gene delivery systems by incorporating active intracellular trafficking mechanisms into their design.

### Professor Michael Roberts, University of South Australia; The University of Queensland



Michael Roberts is a NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow and a Research Professor in Clinical Pharmacology, Therapeutics & Pharmaceutical Science at The University of SA and The University of Qld. He established and is Director of the Therapeutics Research Centre (TRC), based at the Princess Alexandra Hospital (Brisbane) and The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Adelaide). He has been awarded both the ASCEPT RAND and APSA medal, is a former APSA President, a Fellow of the Australian College of Pharmacy, an APVMA Fellow in Nanoscience and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.

### Professor Sarah Hook, University of Otago



Dr Hook is Professor of Biopharmaceutics, School of Pharmacy at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. She received her PhD in 1996 from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Otago. She joined the faculty of the School of Pharmacy in 2001. Research interests include the development of one-shot sustained release, particulate and needle-free (transdermal or oral) formulations for the delivery of small and large molecule therapeutics. Her research in the field is aided by her knowledge and experience in the fields of immunology and pharmaceutical formulation science. She has published more than 65 papers since joining the School of Pharmacy.



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## Symposium 7: Preparing graduates for the workplace

### Professor Brian Yates, The University of Tasmania



Brian Yates was appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology at the University of Tasmania in July 2015. He is a researcher with an international reputation for computational chemistry, and a highly commended teacher.

Prof Yates was an Executive Director (Engineering, Mathematical and Information Sciences) at the Australian Research Council from 2013 to 2015. In this role, he helped to develop new initiatives within the ARC to support research excellence in Australia, as well as overseeing grant awarding processes and a major information technology development project.

In 2006 he was honoured with the Carrick National Teaching Award for the Physical Sciences and in 2010 he was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Individual Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning. In 2010-2011 he led a national project with Professor Sue Jones (as ALTC Discipline Scholars in Science) to develop threshold learning outcomes for undergraduate degrees in science.

Professor Yates has returned to the University of Tasmania with a vision for the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology which will see it building on its own strengths in research and teaching. Just as importantly, he understands the vital connectedness between the University and the state of Tasmania.

### Dr Kirsten Zimbardi, The University of Queensland



Dr Kirsten Zimbardi is a Teaching-Focussed Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Queensland. Dr Zimbardi has developed an international reputation for her research into the use of inquiry-based curricula and undergraduate research experiences to develop students' skills in scientific reasoning, and

provide students with the skills and habits of mind necessary to successfully tackle the complex, unstructured problems required in the 21st century workplace.

### Dr Laurence Orlando, Monash University



Laurence Orlando's approach to teaching is largely inspired by her extensive industry experience. She has developed an innovative, industry-led approach to teaching based on "experiential learning" principles that contributes to the development of essential students' attributes like critical thinking,

teamwork and communication. Laurence has designed multiple units using authentic problems drawn from her industry background to inspire and engage students to work on relevant activities to improve their employability. In these units, students are empowered to build their knowledge and gain genuine work experience at university by creating exciting assessment artefacts that are ultimately usable in the workplace.

### Ms Claire Johnston, Australian National University



Claire Johnston is a second year post-graduate medical student at the Australian National University. She completed a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Pharmacology in 2010 and started a PhD in geriatric clinical pharmacology in 2011. She is

supervised primarily by Prof. Sarah Hilmer at Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney and is currently completing the degree alongside her medical studies. Her primary research interests are pharmacokinetics, renal medicine and medical education. Claire has been the student representative for the Clinical Pharmacology SIG and Education Forum at ASCEPT since 2011.



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## Symposium 8: Ethnicity and personalised medicine

### Dr Annette Gross, GlaxoSmithKline



Annette Gross was awarded a Bachelor of Pharmacy with First Class Honours and the University Medal from the University of Sydney. After completing a PhD in the same faculty, Annette worked as a clinical pharmacology researcher in institutes (IKP, Stuttgart), universities (Adelaide, Auvergne) and hospitals (Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney). Since 1999 Annette has been leading a group in GlaxoSmithKline assessing drug ethnic sensitivity and its implications for global drug development. She is a member of the Executive Editorial Board of the *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Sydney.

### Dr Nuala Helsby, University of Auckland



Dr Nuala Helsby is an Associate Professor in Molecular Medicine and Pathology at the University of Auckland. Nuala has more than 25 years of experience in the field of drug metabolism and pharmacogenetics. Her research is focused on two main areas: (i) pharmacogenomic regulation of human drug metabolism and (ii) the biotransformation of novel drugs as part of the development of therapeutic agents for a wide range of diseases. She has a particular focus on anticancer drugs but is also involved in development of drugs for tuberculosis, trypanosomiasis as well as immunosuppressive therapy.

### Professor Andrew Somogyi, University of Adelaide



Andrew Somogyi is Professor in Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide. His major research interests are in examining interindividual variation in drug response through clinical pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic and clinical outcomes studies underpinned by pharmacogenomics in the therapeutic areas of pain management, addiction, transplantation and cancer.

He currently has NHMRC funding for pharmacogenetic studies involving drugs for various conditions including a recent award to investigate pharmacogenetics in Australian Aborigines; he serves on several international Pharmacogenetic, Pain and Clinical Pharmacology journal editorial boards, is Deputy Chair of the Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics Section of IUPHAR and co-chairs the ASCEPT Pharmacogenetics Interest Group. He has established a pharmacogenetics service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and is an honorary fellow of the Faculty of Pain Medicine, Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists.

### Dr Daniel Barratt, University of Adelaide



Dr Barratt completed his PhD in 2010, and is a leader of the Clinical Pharmacogenomics and Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics Laboratories of the Discipline of Pharmacology, and member of the Centre for Personalised Cancer Medicine, of the University of Adelaide. He is currently a NHMRC Postdoctoral Research Officer investigating personalised medicines for Aboriginal people. His major research areas also include the clinical pharmacogenetics of opioid pharmacokinetics, and the neuroimmune genetics of cancer pain, acute postoperative pain, and analgesia. In addition, he is leading research aimed at integrating clinical and experimental pharmacokinetics, pharmacogenomics and drug resistance markers, for the personalised dosing of tyrosine kinase inhibitors to fight cancer. Dr Barratt is deputy chair of the ASCEPT special interest group for Pharmacogenomics.



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## Symposium 9: An up close look at novel targets for breast cancer

### Associate Professor Marie-Odile Parat, University of Queensland



Marie-Odile Parat (MO) is an Associate Professor in the School of Pharmacy at University of Queensland. She graduated from France with a Pharm.D., a Masters in Cutaneous Biology and a Ph.D. in Cell Biology. MO did her Pharmaceutical Residency at the University Hospitals of Grenoble, France. She carried out research within the R&D laboratories of Estee Lauder in Melville, NY. She further worked for the United Nations International Trade Center in Geneva, Switzerland, in collaboration with WHO. She later performed post-doctoral research in the Universidade de São Paulo, Brasil and The Cleveland Clinic Foundation in the US. She was appointed as a Staff Scientist in the Center for Anesthesiology Research of the Cleveland Clinic in 2003, and an Assistant Professor of Molecular Medicine in the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University, before joining UQ in 2007. The long term research goal of her laboratory is to provide insight for novel cancer therapies.

### Dr Robyn Meech, Flinders University



Dr. Meech is a pharmacologist and stem cell biologist with extensive experience in drug metabolizing enzymes as well as mechanisms of gene regulation, cell signalling and cell and stem cell biology. She trained at Flinders University of South Australia and the Scripps Research Institute in San Diego, California. She directs a program of study on UDP-glycosyltransferases focused on how these enzymes are regulated and their roles in metabolizing drugs, xenobiotics and endogenous metabolites. The latter is of particular interest as these metabolites include many transcription factor ligands and signalling molecules that influence cell and stem cell behaviour and may contribute to the development of cancer and degenerative disease. She has received 3 NIH grants in support of her work and currently holds an ARC Future Fellowship and directs an NHMRC project grant.

### Prof Alastair Stewart, University of Melbourne



Alastair Stewart is a Professor of Pharmacology Co-Director of the Lung Health Research Centre at the University of Melbourne. He has extensive experience in the field of respiratory and inflammation research. His research interests focus on tissue remodelling in asthma and novel drugs targeting tissue remodelling and inflammation. His long-term interest in steroid pharmacology has also encompassed several studies in tumour biology. He is currently focussed on elucidating determinants of steroid sensitivity, particularly in airway structural cells and is leading translational research projects seeking novel treatments for steroid resistance.

His laboratory has a strong track record of Graduate Research training and he maintains wide interests in education, research, research training and research support structures. He has chaired the Airway inflammation and remodelling (AIR) meetings in Melbourne in 2012 and 2014. He is Secretary General of the Asia Pacific Federation of Pharmacologists, has been a member of the ATS since 1996 and has served on RSF programme committee since 2012.

### Professor Michael Murray, University of Sydney



Michael Murray is with The University of Sydney's Discipline of Pharmacology. He completed a PhD in Pharmaceutical Chemistry at the University of Sydney in 1982, a postdoctoral period at Cornell University and was appointed to the NHMRC Fellowship Scheme between 1987-1998. He received a D.Sc. from The University of Sydney in 1995. After 10 years as Professor of Pharmacogenomics he relocated to the Discipline of Pharmacology in 2013. Michael Murray has published over 200 papers and made 80 research presentations. He was an ASCEPT Councillor, and is an editorial board member of Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology and Xenobiotica.



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## Symposium 10: Adverse drug reactions, is electronic prescribing a panacea?

### Associate Professor Simon Bell, Monash University



Dr Simon Bell is a pharmacist and Associate Professor, Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, Monash University. He is also Adjunct Professor, University of Eastern Finland, and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of South Australia. His research is focused on medicines use among older people, particularly psychotropic medicines. He has published more than 140 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and is Associate Editor of the Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research. Dr Bell is a Chief Investigator of the \$25 million National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Cognitive Decline Partnership Centre.

### Associate Professor Matt Doogue, Otago University



Matt Doogue is a physician passionate about applying Clinical Pharmacology principles to patient care. He is Chair of the Specialty Training Committee for Clinical Pharmacology of ASCEPT and the RACP. Moving from paper to electronic prescribing brings new challenges for the discipline of Clinical Pharmacology. His interests include adverse drug reactions, applied pharmacokinetics and quality use of medicines.

### Professor Johanna Westbrook, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University



Johanna Westbrook, is Director of the Centre for Health Systems and Safety Research, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University. She is internationally recognised for her research evaluating the effects of information and communication technology (ICT) in health care.

She has over 300 publications and been awarded over \$38M in research grants. She has led national research on medication safety informatics, conducting comparative studies of electronic medication management systems, their effectiveness in reducing error rates, their propensity to introduce new errors, the cost-effectiveness of these systems and their impact on health professionals' work. In 2014 she was named Australian ICT professional of the year by the Australian Information Industry Association for her research contributions.

### Dr Sepehr Shakib, Royal Adelaide Hospital



Dr Shakib is Director of Clinical Pharmacology at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. For the last 4 years he has been involved in South Australia's electronic health record program- EPAS.



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## Symposium 11: Novel approaches to drug safety: Beyond randomised controlled trials

### Ms Tara Quirke, Consumer Dementia Research Network, Alzheimer's Australia



Tara has held several health management and educational positions both in Australia and South Africa and for the past 17 years she has specialised in psychogeriatric care, with a particular interest in ensuring the rights of the elderly are upheld.

Tara works as an Aged Care Consultant and is a registered aged care quality assessor and a member of the advisory panel for the Australian Journal of Dementia Care. She is Queensland's Environmental Design Consultant with the University of Wollongong's Dementia Training Study Centre, who specialise in promoting the principles of dementia friendly designs for hospitals and residential facilities. She is an active member of the Consumer Dementia Research Network established by Alzheimer's Australia (Canberra).

Tara was the primary carer for her dad who was diagnosed with dementia at 68 years old. He lived with her and her husband for 14 years until he passed in 2011. Tara's qualifications include two Masters Degrees (Clinical Nursing and Mental Health) with additional qualifications in education, management, midwifery and community nursing.

### Professor Danny Liew, The University of Melbourne



Professor Danny Liew is the Chair in Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Melbourne, and Director of the Melbourne EpiCentre based at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. He is also Head of Medical Unit 1 at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and a visiting physician in Clinical

Pharmacology. Danny's research interests lie in clinical epidemiology (including clinical trials), health services research and health economics, especially in the areas of chronic diseases and therapeutics.

### Associate Professor Alan Brookhart, University of North Carolina



Dr Brookhart is a Professor of Epidemiology and an Adjunct Professor of Pharmacy and Medicine at UNC Chapel Hill. His research is focused primarily on the development and application of statistical methods and study designs for comparative

effectiveness and drug safety research using large clinical and healthcare utilization databases. He has made contributions to the development of various methods to reduce confounding bias in non-experimental studies of medications effects, including instrumental variable and marginal structural models. Substantively, he is interested in comparative effectiveness of medications in elderly patients and those with inflammatory conditions and end-stage renal disease.

### Dr Jenni Iiomäki, Monash University



Jenni is an NHMRC Early Career Fellow with expertise in clinical pharmacy, epidemiology and public health. She has conducted pharmacoepidemiological studies with large clinical cohorts and using linked health care claims data in Australia and

internationally. Her research interests are quality use of medicines, medicine safety and effectiveness and improving health by providing evidence through large population studies. Jenni is a pharmacist with research experience in Europe, The United States and Australia. Following completion of a master's degree in pharmacy at the University of Kuopio, Finland, she completed her PhD in public health, focusing on alcohol epidemiology, at the University of Eastern Finland. She has also undertaken post-graduate training in pharmacoepidemiology at the University of Florida. Jenni was named Young Epidemiologist of the Year 2011 by the Finnish Epidemiological Society, and received the award for the Best Thesis in Pharmaceutical Sciences 2010-2011 from the Finnish Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Research.