

MIPS Seminar Program

Meet the emerging leaders

31 6 March 2024 12:00 to 1:00 pm LT3

Dr Amandeep Kaur (*Medicinal Chemistry*)



Unveiling Nanoscale Secrets of Biological Systems Using Fluorescent Probes

Dr Amandeep Kaur is a Lecturer and ARC DECRA Fellow at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences. She completed her PhD in 2016 at the University of Sydney with Prof. Elizabeth New. She then took up a postdoctoral position in biological imaging at the University of New South Wales. In 2018 she was awarded the University of Sydney Vice Chancellor's Fellow to establish her independent research career. At Monash University, Dr Kaur holds an ARC DECRA.

Research in her group is focussed on the development of fluorophores and fluorescent sensors for nanoscale imaging of crucial biomolecular targets for which there is an unmet need. Dr Kaur has been recognised with several awards including the JG Russell Award for a Top- ranked DECRA and the RACI Rita Cornforth Lectureship awarded to the outstanding female Early-Career Chemist in Australia.

Dr Justin Turner (*Centre for Medicine Use and Safety*)



Getting patients to stop taking inappropriate medications should be easy, right?

Dr Justin Turner has extensive experience providing patient care and leading research across aged care, primary care, tertiary care and academia in Australia, Europe and North America. His research seeks to answer the question, "How can we optimise medication use in older adults?" He completed his Masters in Clinical Pharmacy at UniSA and his PhD at Monash before undertaking his PostDoc Fellowship at the University of Montreal, where he focused on designing, implementing and evaluating evidence-based deprescribing interventions at a population level. Dr Turner is an inaugural member of the Australian Deprescribing Network (ADeN), and served as Co-Director for the Canadian Appropriate medication use and Deprescribing Network (CADeN). He has been an investigator on successful grants and scholarships (>\$11 million) and received awards for research excellence from the Canadian and the American Geriatrics Society. His current research adapts international best evidence on patient-led deprescribing to the contexts of Australia, Canada and the United States.

Dr. Jie Tang (*Drug Delivery Disposition & Dynamics*)



Nanoadjuvant: From Nanocarriers to Immunomodulators

Dr. Jie Tang is an NHMRC Emerging Leadership Fellow with expertise in biomedical engineering, pharmaceuticals, and nanotechnology. Her research endeavours encompass both fundamental and applied research at the nano-bio interface through nanomaterial innovation. Specifically, Dr Tang's group is dedicated to developing nanoparticle-based platforms tailored for drug and gene delivery, cancer immunotherapy and vaccine adjuvants, especially through oral administration. Dr Tang has achieved over 47 research outputs (19 first/corresponding-authored papers and 3 patents), with an H-index of 26 (Google Scholar, as of Jan 2024). Since completing her PhD at UQ in 2018, Dr Tang has secured research grants as CI totalling over AU\$ 1.5 million and established licensing agreements with industry partners like AstraZeneca. Joined D4 at MIPS in fall 2023, she aims to collaborate with fellow researchers to optimize nanoparticles' efficacy for therapeutic and vaccine purposes.