Female fertility and reproductive health are influenced by the number and quality of eggs stored in the ovaries in structures known as primordial follicles. Established in the ovaries before birth, the supply of primordial follicles is progressively depleted throughout life due to the natural aging process. The ovarian reserve of primordial follicles may also become prematurely depleted following exposure to DNA damaging anticancer treatments, leading to loss of fertility and early menopause. We are working to understand the regulation of primordial follicle number and quality in order to improve the health and fertility of women during aging and following anti-cancer treatment.

Research Projects

1. Uncovering the molecular mechanisms that determine the length of the female fertile lifespan
2. Characterising ovarian damage caused by anticancer treatment

Selected significant publications:


