



## The School of Clinical Sciences invites you to the 2021 Monash University Translational Research Symposium

- Scientific program from leading translational researchers from Monash University's clinical schools
- Attendance compulsory for PhD students enrolled in the Translational Research program

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**DATE:** MONDAY 12 JULY 2021

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**TIME:** 1:00PM – 5:15PM

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**JOIN:** Zoom [LINK](#)

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**visit:** <https://www.monash.edu/medicine/scs/events/tr-symposium>

**email:** [jinleng.graham@monash.edu](mailto:jinleng.graham@monash.edu)



### Keynote Speaker

**Professor Sharon Lewin** AO, FRACP, PhD, FAHMS

Director of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity  
As an infectious diseases physician and basic scientist, Professor Lewin's laboratory focuses on basic, translational and clinical research aimed at finding a cure for HIV and understanding the interaction between HIV and hepatitis B virus.



## Program: Monday 12 July 2021

Timing	Title/Speaker
1:00pm – 1:05pm	<p>Welcome</p> <p><a href="#">Professor Eric Morand</a> Head, School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health</p>
<p>Site Chairs: Prof Eric Morand (SCS); Prof Terence O'Brien (CCS); Dr Pavel Sluka (EHCS)</p>	
1:05pm – 1:35pm	<p><b>Atrial Myopathy: The link to cryptogenic stroke</b></p> <p><a href="#">Dr Jithin Sajeev</a> Eastern Health Clinical School</p>
1:35pm – 2:05pm	<p><b>Durability of immune memory following SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination</b></p> <p><a href="#">Associate Professor Menno van Zelm</a> Central Clinical School</p>
2:05pm – 2:35pm	<p><b>Integrating telehealth for the delivery of antenatal care during the COVID-19 pandemic: An interrupted time series analysis</b></p> <p><a href="#">Dr Kirsten Palmer</a> School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health</p>
2:35pm – 3:15pm	<p><b>The major scientific advances from COVID: implications for research and other infectious diseases</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker – Professor Sharon Lewin AO</b></p> <p>Director – The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity</p>
3:15pm – 3:30pm	BREAK
3:30pm – 3:45pm	<p><b>Cell Penetrating Peptides for Therapeutic Protein Delivery</b></p> <p><a href="#">Jacques Ma</a>, PhD student-TRM6002 – Poster Competition Finalist</p>
3:45pm – 4:00pm	<p><b>Betacellulin - a potential biomarker or treatment target?</b></p> <p><a href="#">Sharvada Raju</a>, PhD student-TRM6002 – Poster Competition Finalist</p>
4:00pm – 4:15pm	<p><b>Deletion of Cell Division Autoantigen 1 (CDA1) to retard diabetic kidney disease in db/db diabetic mice</b></p> <p><a href="#">Jiali Tang</a>, PhD student-TRM6002 - Poster Competition Finalist</p>
4:15pm – 4.45pm	<p><b>Paediatric inflammatory bowel disease - a model of disrupted host-microbe interaction</b></p> <p><a href="#">Dr Ed Giles</a> School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health</p>



Timing	Title/Speaker
4:45pm – 5:15pm	<b>Identifying mechanisms of leukaemia development, a pipeline to translation</b> <a href="#">Dr Catherine Carmichael</a> Central Clinical School



## Speaker Bios

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### **1:05pm – 1:35pm: Atrial Myopathy: The link to cryptogenic stroke**

**Dr Jithin Sajeev** Eastern Health Clinical School



Dr. Jithin Sajeev is a consultant cardiologist who graduated from University of Otago, New Zealand. He moved to Melbourne to undertake his medical and fellowship training. Dr. Sajeev completed a clinical fellowship in the management of cardiac rhythm abnormalities and has public and private appointments in the eastern suburbs, including at Eastern Health. He also undertook a PhD through Eastern Health Clinical School, Monash University. The focus of his doctoral research was on abnormalities of the heart that lead to strokes.

### **1:35pm – 2:05pm: Durability of immune memory following SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination**

**Associate Professor Menno van Zelm** Central Clinical School



Associate Professor Menno van Zelm heads the B Cell Differentiation Laboratory in the Department of Immunology and Pathology at AMREP. Menno van Zelm performed his PhD studies at the Erasmus MC in Rotterdam, the Netherlands on "B cell development and primary antibody deficiencies" under supervision of Jacques van Dongen and Mirjam van der Burg. In 2008, A/Prof van Zelm returned to Rotterdam for postdoctoral studies on CD19-complex deficiencies and he identified the first CD81 deficiency. From 2009, he headed a research group in the Erasmus MC (since 2013 as associate professor), and works on the regulation of Ig repertoire formation in precursor-B-cell development and the generation of memory B cells and plasma cells. Most studies involve human material to allow direct translation to patient care. Current disease models include antibody deficiencies, Down syndrome, persistent viral infections, auto-inflammatory diseases and IgE-mediated allergies. He moved to Monash University in 2015. A/Prof van Zelm has received multiple personal grants since 2009, including a Veni Fellowship from the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). In 2010, he received the Heineken Young Scientists Award from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences (KNAW).



## **2:05pm – 2:35pm: Integrating telehealth for the delivery of antenatal care during the COVID-19 pandemic: An interrupted time series analysis**

**Dr Kirsten Palmer** Senior Research Fellow, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health



Dr Kirsten Palmer (BBiomedSc MBBS (Hons) PhD FRANZCOG CMFM) is a clinically practising obstetrician and maternal fetal medicine specialist, Head of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Monash Health and senior research fellow at Monash University. Her clinical and research interests closely align with a particular focus on placental dysfunction and the impact this has on the health outcomes for mother and baby. She currently leads an NHMRC funded multi-centre clinical trial exploring the use of melatonin in pregnancies complicated by fetal growth restriction as a fetal neuroprotectant. She is actively engaged in research that seeks to improve treatments and future health outcomes for women affected by disorders such as preeclampsia in their pregnancies. Through her clinical leadership role, she also works to improve patient care, including access to care, now also working as the medical lead for telehealth integration across Monash Health.

## **2:35pm – 3:15pm: Keynote address - The major scientific advances from COVID: implications for research and other infectious diseases**

**Professor Sharon Lewin** AO, FRACP, PhD, FAHMS



**Director – The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity**

Professor Sharon Lewin is the inaugural director of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, a joint venture between the University of Melbourne and Royal Melbourne Hospital; Melbourne Laureate Professor, The University of Melbourne; consultant infectious diseases physician, Alfred Hospital and Royal Melbourne Hospital and a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Practitioner Fellow.

She is an infectious diseases physician and basic scientist. She completed her medical degree and PhD in virology at Monash University in 1996 and her post-doctoral fellowship with Dr David Ho at Rockefeller University in 1999. Her research focuses on understanding why HIV persists on treatment and developing clinical trials aimed at ultimately finding a cure for HIV infection. She has published over 300 publications and in 2019 was named a Clarivate Web of Science high citation researcher.

She leads a large national network funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia called APPRISE which focuses on pandemic preparedness and started in Australia in 2016.

Scientists from the Doherty Institute were the first to isolate and share the SARS COV2 virus outside of China and have a broad program of research focused on testing, treatments and vaccines for COVID19.

## **4:15pm – 4.45pm: Paediatric inflammatory bowel disease - a model of disrupted host-microbe interaction**

**Dr Ed Giles** Senior Research Fellow, Paediatrics, School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health



Ed Giles is a consultant paediatric gastroenterologist at Monash Children's Hospital and lead for paediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD). He is a Research Fellow at the Hudson Institute of Medical Research. He is on the research committee of the Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA) and is the President of the Australian Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition as well as chair of the GESA Paediatric Network. His research interests are in host-microbiome interactions, particularly in regard to IBD. He has projects developing novel biotherapeutics in IBD, as well as many other collaborations in laboratory research.

## **4:45pm – 5:15pm: Identifying mechanisms of leukaemia development, a pipeline to translation**

**Dr Catherine Carmichael** Research Fellow, Australian Centre for Blood Diseases

Central Clinical School



Dr Catherine Carmichael is a group leader at the Australian Centre for Blood Diseases within Monash University's Central Clinical School. She completed her PhD and initial postdoctoral training at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute between 2004-2013, before moving to the Australian Centre for Blood Diseases in 2014. Her research focuses on gaining an understanding of the molecular mechanisms driving Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) development and pathogenesis; with the ultimate goal of identifying novel methods for therapeutically targeting this extremely poor outcome malignancy.