MONASH University

2026 MIPS Seminar Program

6 May 2026 | 12:00 to 1:00 pm | LT3

IDENTIFYING NEW THERAPEUTIC TARGETS FOR MOTOR NEURON DISEASE

Professor Adam Walker



Professor Adam Walker has over 20 years' experience in neurodegenerative disease research, with Bachelor of Science (Honours, Biochemistry) from the University of Tasmania, PhD (Neuroscience) from the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health, University of Melbourne), and postdoctoral training at the Centre for Neurodegenerative Disease Research, University of Pennsylvania.

He is a Bill Guest FightMND Mid-Career Fellow, and was recently appointed Chair of Pharmacological Sciences in the Sydney Pharmacy School, Charles Perkins Centre at The University of Sydney, where he leads the Neurodegeneration Pathobiology Laboratory (from November 2024). At The University of Sydney, he is also Convenor of the TDP-43 Research Cluster within the Centre for Drug Discovery Innovation, and serves as Research Academic Lead in the Sydney Pharmacy School.

Previously, he was a Group Leader in the Clem Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research at the Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland (2018-2025), where he is now Honorary Professor. His research aims to understand the molecular mechanisms of motor neuron disease and frontotemporal dementia to define better therapeutic pathways for people living with these diseases, with a focus on the role of pathology formed by the protein TDP-43 in disease.

His current work employs cell, iPSC, and mouse models of TDP-43 proteinopathy, including proof-of-concept and preclinical studies of new and repurposed small molecules and novel gene therapies. Studies in Professor Walker's laboratory are currently supported by FightMND, NHMRC (Ideas), LifeArc, and MND Australia, and previously by the Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research Global Scholars Program, Brain Foundation, and Dementia Australia, among others.