

HIV Cure Research: Science for Community

ABOUT THE EVENT

This event will showcase HIV cure research being undertaken by the Melbourne HIV Cure Consortium (MHCC), an initiative funded by the Victorian Department of Health.

MHCC grant recipients will summarise research funded by the project ranging from basic science, immunology, social and translational research for a community audience.

EVENT DETAILS

Date (AEST):	Wednesday 23 November 2022
Time (AEST):	11:50am - Registrations 12:00pm – 1:00pm: Presentations, Q&As 1:00pm – 1:30pm: Networking Lunch
Venue:	Doherty Institute Auditorium 792 Elizabeth Street Melbourne, VIC 3004
Format:	In Person
Speakers:	Professor Sharon Lewin AO Laureate Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi Peter - Trial Participation Dr Anna Hearps - How HIV hides in hard to reach cells Dr Michael Roche - Understanding HIV hiding in the brain Dr Kirsty Machon - Missing voices: Women in Cure Research Associate Professor James McMahon - Imaging the HIV reservoir
Chair:	Associate Professor Edwina Wright

CHAIR

Associate Professor Edwina Wright



Edwina is an infectious diseases physician and clinical researcher at the Alfred Hospital and the Burnet Institute. With a strong interest in HIV-associated neurological disorders Edwina's work in this area includes studies that address the pathogenesis of HIV infection of the brain and the benefits of different strategies to treat HIV brain infection.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Professor Sharon Lewin AO



Sharon Lewin is the inaugural director of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity. She is an infectious diseases physician and virologist. Her research focuses on understanding why HIV persists on treatment and developing clinical trials aimed at ultimately finding a cure for HIV infection. Sharon has published over 360 publications and given over 100 major invited talks on HIV cure. She is President of the International AIDS Society. Sharon is passionate about science communication and community engagement and has provided objective and rational insights and perspectives on both HIV and more recently COVID-19 in the national and international media and to civil society and the business community.

Laureate Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi



Françoise BARRÉ-SINOUSSE, PhD, has been involved in retrovirology research, since the early 1970's and recognized for her contributions to HIV/AIDS research, in particular the discovery of HIV in 1983. Until 2015, as Research Director at the National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM) and Professor at the Institut Pasteur in France, she has been leading research programs on HIV/AIDS pathogenesis, in particular on mechanisms required to control HIV/SIV infection and/or harmful T cell activation induced in response to HIV/SIV infection. Along with her research activities, Françoise BARRÉ-SINOUSSE has been strongly implicated in promoting multidisciplinary and translational science. In 2010, she launched the IAS "Toward an HIV Cure" initiative, as part of her strong implication in advocacy to accelerate scientific evidence-based public health interventions on HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment.

Dr Anna Hearps



Dr Anna Hearps is a mid-career basic researcher at the Burnet Institute in Melbourne where she heads the Infection, Inflammation and Innate Immunity group and is Deputy Head of the Disease Elimination Program. Her primary areas of research include the persistence of HIV reservoirs in monocytes and macrophages and strategies to effectively eliminate them, as well as characterising chronic inflammation and immune activation in people living with HIV and links to HIV-related co-morbidities such as cardiovascular disease.

Dr Michael Roche



Michael is a senior postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Professor Sharon Lewin in the department of Infectious diseases at the University of Melbourne and the Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity. His focus is on understanding the HIV reservoir that persists during antiretroviral therapy with a particular interest in defining a HIV reservoir in the central nervous system.

Kirsty Machon



Kirsty Machon is Executive Officer of Positive Women Victoria and was part of the Missing Voices research team. She has twenty five years' experience working in health and HIV-related journalism, policy, advocacy and has held various roles with Australian HIV organisations, as well as working in eye care policy. Kirsty holds a PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science. She recently co-authored guidance on infant feeding option for women living with HIV for ASHM.

Associate Professor James McMahon



Associate Professor McMahon is an Infectious Diseases clinician researcher, Head of the Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Unit at the Alfred Hospital and also an ID physician at Monash Medical Centre. His research interests are in clinical trials focused on HIV Cure, HIV treatment, the cascade of HIV Care and COVID-19.