



2019 MEDICAL RESEARCH INNOVATION CONFERENCE

20–21 November 2019

Peppers The Sands Resort – Torquay, Victoria

www.nfmri.org.au
#NFMRI19

*“Aligning intent: working towards
a more sustainable, efficient and
effective medical research ecosystem”*

Word from NFMRI Chairman

Dr Rob Sauer, Chairman, NFMRI



On behalf of our Board of Directors and our Conference Committee, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our fourth medical research innovation conference, *“Aligning intent: working towards a more sustainable, efficient, and effective medical research ecosystem”*.

Many individuals and organisations have contributed to the development of the conference program. We would like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of our CEO, Dr Noel Chambers, Nancy Ranner and Diane Moore who must be commended for their hard work and commitment in helping put together this event. We also wish to thank our Board and Research Advisory Committee Members for their assistance and guidance. Importantly, an event such as this could not take place without sponsorship. We thank Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick for their support as our conference sponsor and Hall & Wilcox as our session sponsor.

Over the next two days, we hope you will share experiences with one another and derive real benefits from our speakers and panelists. While our previous three conferences sought to discuss key issues affecting the medical research and innovation sectors and to explore strategies and solutions to help build, support and grow the biomedical innovation sector in Australia, this year's conference will explore benefits, harm and wastage across the medical research ecosystem. It will focus on how together we can lead culture and systems change to improve the sector. It will also focus on ways we can improve efficiencies and communication.

As such, the following three themes were devised to continue the conversation from last year's event:

- First, we will explore funding programs and how they may influence researchers, their institutions and other funders;
- Second, we will discuss the intersection between basic research and translation and hear from individuals who have navigated the translational pathway successfully;
- Third, we will conclude with a conversation with some of Australia's largest funders to learn more about their motivations and perspectives with regards to supporting medical research.

As a funder, supporter and thought leader in biomedical research, the NFMRI is committed to help innovations succeed and advance so that they can reach the community sooner. Join us on this journey to impact and contact us to see how together we can keep the conversation going.

We hope that it is a memorable, worthwhile and exciting event and that each of you leaves having broadened your knowledge and expanded your connections to be better able to contribute to pragmatic biomedical research.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Rob Sauer,
Chairman, NFMRI

Acknowledgements

Special thank you to our Conference Committee, our Conference Supporter and Session Sponsor.

Conference Supporter



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intellectual property

Session Sponsor



Conference etiquette

As this conference is as much about learning as it is about strategy and impact, a strict non-solicitation policy is in place. Under no circumstances are individuals to be approached for funding or support of any kind. Attendees soliciting for support may be asked to leave.

Follow the conference on:



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LinkedIn: National Foundation for Medical Research & Innovation

Venue Map

Peppers 
The Sands Resort
Torquay, Victoria

In case of
emergencies,
please contact:

Nancy Ranner
0413 922 370 or
Dr Noel Chambers
0412 357 893





The National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation helps medical research be truly effective.

NFMRI can assist those wishing to make a gift to effectively support in perpetuity medical research into potential new drugs, diagnostics, vaccines, treatments and devices.

With your support we help Australian medical innovations reach their full potential. Our intimate knowledge of research translation and a focus on effective giving helps donors and other foundations make a difference irrespective of disease.

Please help us, help you, *put rubber on the road.*

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enquiries@nfmri.org.au

1300 233 147

Conference program

Wednesday, 20 November 2019

8.00am	Registrations
9.00am	Welcome and opening Dr Rob Sauer, <i>Chairman, NFMRI</i>
9.15am	Dr Noel Chambers, <i>CEO, NFMRI</i>
THEME 1	Exploring funding programs and how they may influence researchers, their institutions and other funders
9.30am	Opening address “Fit for purpose? Benefits, harm and wastage in Australia’s medical research and translational system” Sandy Plunkett, <i>Founder, Innovation Clearinghouse Pty. Ltd.</i>
10.30am	Morning tea
11.00am	“Exploring the intersection of intent, policy, funding, metrics, government and community” Proudly sponsored by Hall & Wilcox Chair: Lorraine Chiroiu , <i>AusBiotech Ltd.</i> Panelists: Erica Kneipp , <i>The Australian National University</i> ; Anita van der Meer , <i>NSW Health’s Office for Health and Medical Research</i> ; Dr Julie Glover , <i>National Health and Medical Research Council</i>
12.30pm	Lunch



THEME 2	The Intersection between basic research and translation; supporting success
1.30pm	<p>“Creation vs. translation: new, creative approaches to medical research that more directly link to therapy”</p> <p>A/Prof Bernard Flynn, <i>Monash University</i></p>
2.10pm	<p>“Forging pathways for impact”</p> <p>Chair: Dr Julie-Anne White, <i>BioMelbourne Network</i></p> <p>Panelists: A/Prof Nicholas Huntington, <i>Monash University</i>; A/Prof Lenka Munoz, <i>The University of Sydney</i>; Prof Janet Davies, <i>Queensland University of Technology</i>; A/Prof Bernard Flynn, <i>Monash University</i></p>
3.15pm	Afternoon tea
3.45pm	<p>“Next-step partners discussing the ‘valley of death’”</p> <p>Chair: Dr Debra Yin Foo, <i>Partner, Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick</i></p> <p>Panelists: Dr Kathy Nielsen, <i>Monash Innovation</i>; Dr Anand Gautam, <i>Pfizer Australia</i>; Dr Phil Kearney, <i>Merck, Sharp & Dohme Australia</i>; Dr Paul Kelly, <i>OneVentures Pty. Ltd.</i></p>
5.00pm	First day conference wrap up
5.30 – 9:30pm	NFMRI's Annual Awards Night And Networking Function (Peppers The Sands Resort)

Conference program

Thursday, 21 November 2019

8.00am

Registrations

8.45am

Welcome and opening

Dr Rob Sauer, *Chairman, NFMRI*

9.00am

“Quality preclinical research: the foundations of translational success”

Prof David Howells, *The University of Tasmania*

9.45am

"Opportunities for systems change to support translation"

Chair: Dr Lusia Guthrie, *BioMelbourne Network*

Panelists: Dr Noel Chambers, *NFMRI*;

Mike Wilson, *JDRF Australia*;

Dr Rob Grenfell, *CSIRO*;

Prof Elaine Saunders, *Swinburne University of Technology*

10.30am

Morning tea

THEME 3	Aligning expectations: funders, philanthropists and investors
11.00am	<p>“Collaborating for success and impact”</p> <p>Chair: Helen Wellings, <i>Channel 7</i></p> <p>Panelists: Catriona Bruce, <i>IP Australia</i>; Jo Close, <i>Cure4CF Foundation</i>; Grant Hooper, <i>Equity Trustees</i>; Nancy Ranner, <i>NFMRI</i></p>
12.15pm	Lunch
1.15pm	<p>“A conversation with Ian, Bob and Peter about translating research”</p> <p>Chair: Prof Ian Smith, <i>Monash University</i></p> <p>Panelists: Prof Bob Williamson AO; A/Prof Peter van Wijngaarden, <i>Centre for Eye Research Australia</i></p>
2.00pm	<p>“Supporting medical research: a donor and investor perspective”</p> <p>Chair: Simon Lewis <i>Co-Founder, GoodWolf Partners</i></p> <p>Panelists: Patrick Wilde AM; Vedran Drakulic OAM, <i>Gandel Philanthropy</i>; Keith Drewery; Grace Mathew, <i>Stetson Family Office</i>; Peter Johnstone, <i>The Clem Jones Group</i></p>
3.30pm	Conference wrap up
3.45 – 5.00pm	Afternoon tea and drinks

List of speakers



Dr Catriona Bruce

Head of Patent Analytics Hub, IP Australia



Jo Close

Chair, Cure4CF Foundation



Dr Noel Chambers

Chief Executive Officer, NFMRI



Prof Janet Davies

Queensland University of Technology



Lorraine Chiroiu

CEO AusBiotech Ltd.



Vedran Drakulic OAM

CEO, Gandel Philanthropy



Alison Choy Flannigan

Partner, Hall & Wilcox



Keith Drewery

Family Office Director



A/Prof Bernard Flynn
Monash University



Dr Rob Grenfell
Director of Biosecurity Business Unit, CSIRO



Dr Debra Yin Foo
Partner, Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick



Dr Lusia Guthrie
Chair, BioMelbourne Network



Dr Anand Gautam
Head of External Science & Innovation in
Australia, NZ & Southeast Asia, Pfizer



Prof David Howells
Professor of Neuroscience and Brain Plasticity,
University of Tasmania



Dr Julie Glover
Executive Director, Research Foundations
Branch, National Health and Medical
Research Council



John Harkness
Director, NFMRI

List of speakers



Grant Hooper

Grant Program Development Manager,
Equity Trustees



Dr Paul Kelly

Founding Partner, OneVentures Pty. Ltd.



Prof Nicholas Huntington

Cancer Immunotherapy Head,
Monash University



Erica Kneipp

Head of Research Strategy,
The Australian National University



Peter Johnstone

CEO, The Clem Jones Group



Simon Lewis

Co-Founder, GoodWolf Partners



Dr Phil Kearney

Director External Licensing, Merck,
Sharp & Dohme Australia



Grace Mathew

Managing Director, Stetson Family Office



A/Prof Lenka Munoz
The University of Sydney



Dr Rob Sauer
Chairman, NFMRI



Dr Kathy Nielsen
Director Commercialisation (Life Sciences),
Monash Innovation



Prof Elaine Saunders
Swinburne University of Technology



Sandy Plunkett
Founder, Innovation Clearinghouse Pty. Ltd.



Prof A. Ian Smith
Vice-Provost (Research & Research
Infrastructure), Monash University



Nancy Ranner
Grants, Communication and Engagement
Coordinator, NFMRI



Anita van der Meer
NSW Health, Office for Health and
Medical Research

List of speakers



A/Prof Peter van Wijngaarden
Centre for Eye Research Australia



Dr Julie-Anne White
CEO, BioMelbourne Network



Helen Wellings
Journalist, Channel 7



Prof Bob Williamson AO



Patrick Wilde AM



Mike Wilson
Chief Executive Officer,
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation



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