School of Medical Sciences
Seminar Series

Wednesday the 9th of June 2021
3:00 – 4:00pm on Microsoft Teams

We ask all attendees to mute and turn off their video

Professor Rebecca Ritchie
Head of Drug Discovery Biology, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Science
Head of Heart Failure Pharmacology, Monash University

‘Exploiting adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector-mediated therapeutics for diabetic cardiomyopathy’

Bio: Professor Rebecca Ritchie is a discovery scientist internationally-recognised for her contributions to cardiac pharmacology. She is Professor and Head of Drug Discovery Biology at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Science and Head of Heart Failure Pharmacology at Monash University. In addition, she is co-Director of the Drug Discovery and Translation Flagship of the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance, Membership Secretary of the International Society of Heart Research (ISHR, Australasian section), a Director of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) and has provided ~10 years service as a board member of Science and Technology Australia. Prof Ritchie is internationally-recognised for my translation-focused research targeting heart failure and its causes, particularly with respect to preclinical discovery in diabetic heart failure pharmacology. She leads a research program which has made several world-first discoveries for preserving (and indeed rescue) of cardiomyocyte survival and myocardial function in diabetes, MI and other causes of adverse cardiac remodelling. Of particular note, she has led the breakthrough discovery that fine-tuning the cardiac O-GlcNAcylation regulatory enzymes governs the functional and structural phenotype of the diabetic heart. Her research contributions include 126 career publications (spanning preclinical models of disease and patient studies, 21 since January 2020) in leading specialist Cardiology, Diabetes, Pharmacology journals. These contributions have been recognised by the prestigious 2019 ASCEPT visitor to the British Pharmacology Society, Faculty invitations to the American Heart Association, the British Pharmacology Society, multiple world congresses including ISHR, as well as the 2012 ASCEPT Achievement Award, the 2013 Diabetes Australia Millenium Award, and election as a Fellow of the American Heart Association in 2013.

SoMS Seminar Co-convenors

Dr Nicola J Smith
National Heart Foundation Future Leader Fellow
Head, Orphan Receptor Laboratory
Senior Lecturer, Pharmacology

John Lock PhD
Senior Lecturer & Group Leader
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