

MMS + WEHI

# Partnering for Impact

SERIES

## Women's Health

16 October 2025

Ian Potter Auditorium, Kenneth Myer Building,

Time	Presentation
1.30 – 1.35 pm	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Sarath Ranganathan</b> Head of Melbourne Medical School
1.35 – 1.50 pm	<b>MRFF</b> <b>Chair:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Christobel Saunders</b> Director of Research, Melbourne Medical School</li></ul> <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Amanda Jones</b> Research, Innovation &amp; Commercialisation, University of Melbourne</li><li>• <b>Simone Woods</b> Research Grants and Development, WEHI <i>"MRFF – Funding for Impact"</i></li></ul> <b>Audience Q&amp;A</b>
1.50 – 2:35 pm	<b>Cardiovascular Health</b> <i>Short presentations followed by audience Q&amp;A</i> <b>Chairs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Alice Pebay</b> Department of Surgery</li><li>• <b>Marnie Blewitt</b> Blewitt Lab, WEHI</li></ul> <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Andrew Keniry</b> Blewitt Lab, WEHI <i>"Epigenetically Stable Female Pluripotent Cells for Disease Modelling"</i></li></ul>

- **Natalie Hannan**  
Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Newborn Health; Mercy Hospital  
***“Tackling Preeclampsia and Its Aftermath: Innovative Strategies to Understand and Treat the Underlying Pathophysiology”***

*Additional presentation from the Reproductive Health Session*

- **Sarah Price**  
Department of Medicine; Royal Women’s Hospital  
***“A Lifetime of Metabolic Health and Disease in Women: Prematurity, Pregnancy and Perimenopause”***  
*Note: Dr Sarah Price was originally part of the Reproductive Health Session and joined this session due to a scheduling conflict.*

#### **Audience Q&A**

### **Inflammation and Immunity**

*Short presentations followed by audience Q&A*

#### **Chairs:**

- **Stephen Rogerson**  
Department of Infectious Diseases; Doherty Institute
- **Joanna Groom**  
T Cell Interaction Lab, WEHI

#### **Speakers:**

- **Sara Berent**  
Allan Lab, WEHI  
***“Managing X-pectations: What Role Does the X Chromosome Play in the Female-Bias of Lupus Incidence?”***
- **Britt Christensen**  
Department of Medicine; Royal Melbourne Hospital  
***“Immune Regulation Across the Maternal–Placental–Neonatal Axis: Insights from IBD in Pregnancy”***
- **Rhea Longley**  
Longley Lab, WEHI  
***“Investigating Differences in Immune Responses to Malaria Based on Sex and Gender”***

#### **Audience Q&A**

2.35 – 3:20 pm

3.20 – 3.45 pm

Afternoon tea

### **Philanthropy**

*Short presentations followed by audience Q&A*

#### **Chair:**

- **Christobel Saunders**  
Director of Research, Melbourne Medical School

#### **Speakers:**

- **Allison Howell Quinton**  
Advancement, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, and Health Sciences
- **Deborah Carr**  
Fundraising and Philanthropy, WEHI  
***“Collaborate to Innovate: Engaging Donors in Research”***

#### **Audience Q&A**

3.45 – 3.55 pm

## Reproductive Health

Short presentations followed by audience Q&A

### Chairs:

- **Tu'uhevaha Lino**  
Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Newborn Health; Mercy Hospital
- **Eliza Davidson**  
Pasricha Lab, WEHI

### Speakers:

3.55 – 4.45 pm

- **Eliza Davidson**  
Pasricha Lab, WEHI  
*“Addressing Anaemia and Heavy Menstrual Bleeding in LMICs”*
- **Tu'uhevaha Lino**  
Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Newborn Health; Mercy Hospital  
*“Predicting Placental Insufficiency”*
- **Negar Naderpoor**  
ACADI, Baker Department of Cardiometabolic Health Research  
*“Redefining PCOS in Women: From Reproductive Syndrome to Metabolic Condition”*

### Audience Q&A

## Closing Remarks

4.45 – 4.50 pm

**Ken Smith**  
Director, WEHI