



NEW FELLOWS 2021



Australian
Academy of Health and
Medical Sciences

Welcome from the President

On behalf of the Council and Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, I am delighted to warmly welcome this year's newly elected Fellows to the Academy.

Academy Fellowship is granted in recognition of outstanding leadership and significant and continuing contributions to health and medical sciences in Australia. The diversity and depth of talent among the new Fellows elected each year is testimony to the exceptional contributions that Australian clinician researchers and scientists make to global efforts to prevent and manage disease, and to improve the health of the society. As we face the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic, these efforts have been highlighted and crucial to our response.

As a Fellowship, we advance health and medical research in Australia and its translation into benefits for all, by fostering leadership within our sector, providing expert advice to decision makers, and engaging patients and the public. I trust our new Fellows will embrace the activities of the Academy and I look forward to seeing the ways in which they bring their expertise to help the Academy to achieve these goals.



Professor Ingrid Scheffer AO FRS FAA PresAHMS
President



Australian
Academy of Health and
Medical Sciences

The Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences is the impartial, authoritative, cross-sector voice of health and medical science in Australia. We advance health and medical research in Australia and its translation into benefits for all, by fostering leadership within our sector, providing expert advice to decision makers, and engaging patients and the public.

We are an independent, interdisciplinary body of Fellows, who are elected by their peers for their outstanding achievements and exceptional contributions to health and medical science in Australia. Collectively, they are a representative and independent voice, through which we engage with the community, industry and governments.

The Academy is uniquely positioned to convene cross-sector stakeholders from across Australia to address the most pressing health challenges facing society. We focus on the development of future generations of health and medical researchers, on providing independent advice to government and others on issues relating to evidence based medical practice and medical researchers, and on providing a forum for discussion on progress in medical research with an emphasis on translation of research into practice.

The Academy is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits' Commission (ACNC) and is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient.

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ORDINARY FELLOWS



Professor Jerry Adams

Honours and Recognition: FAA FRS FAHMS

Primary Position: Honorary Senior Principal Research Fellow, Blood Cells and Blood Cancer Division

Institute: The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

State: Victoria

Molecular biologist Professor Jerry Adams has made many ground-breaking cancer discoveries. His lab showed that the chromosome translocations hallmarking certain lymphomas represent activation of oncogenes by juxtaposed immunoglobulin (Ig) locus enhancers, the prototype being MYC activation by enhancer E μ . Their tumorigenic impact was revealed by engineering transgenic mice, such as E μ -MYC mice, which remain an invaluable tumour model worldwide. The seminal discovery that the BCL-2 gene drives lymphomagenesis by preventing apoptosis, and his many contributions on how BCL-2 and its relatives control apoptosis have directly stimulated development of the BCL-2 inhibitor venetoclax, which is revolutionising treatment of CLL and AML patients.

Professor Kaarin Anstey

Honours and Recognition: FASSA FAHMS

Primary Position: ARC Laureate Fellow

Institute: UNSW Sydney

State: New South Wales



Professor Kaarin Anstey is a world leader in cognitive ageing and dementia risk reduction. Her program of research has contributed to the evidence base on dementia prevention through identification and quantification of risk factors for dementia, the development of risk assessment tools, and implementation of interventions.

Professor Anstey's work has directly informed public policy and guidelines, both within Australia and globally in her collaboration with the World Health Organisation. In a second area of research, Anstey has developed a model of older driver safety that has underpinned a validated risk assessment battery and interventions to improve older driver safety.



Professor Julie Bines

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor of Paediatrics

Institute: Murdoch Children's Research Institute

State: Victoria

Professor Julie Bines is Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Melbourne and a Paediatric

Gastroenterologist and Head of Clinical Nutrition at the Royal Children's Hospital. She leads the Enteric Disease Group at Murdoch Children's Research Institute, working to develop an affordable novel rotavirus vaccine, RV3-BB vaccine, aimed at preventing rotavirus disease from birth in infants worldwide. She has served as an expert consultant for the World Health Organisation (WHO) and is Director of the WHO Collaborative Centre for Child Health.

Professor Suzanne Cory

Honours and Recognition: AC FAA FRS FAHMS

Primary Position: Honorary Distinguished Research Fellow

Institute: The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

State: Victoria



Molecular biologist Professor Suzanne Cory has made signal contributions to cancer genetics. With Jerry Adams, she discovered that chromosome translocations associated with human Burkitt's lymphomas activate the oncogene MYC, which promotes cell proliferation. By modelling this translocation in transgenic mice, they proved it to be causative. With David Vaux and Andreas Strasser, Cory and Adams later discovered that BCL-2, translocated in follicular lymphoma, promotes cancer by impairing apoptosis. Detailed analysis of mechanism with their colleagues culminated in the anti-BCL-2 drug venetoclax, which is revolutionising cancer treatment.

Professor Cory was Director of WEHI (1996-2009) and President of the Australian Academy of Science (2010-2014).



Professor Jodie Dodd

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor

Institute: The University of Adelaide

State: South Australia

Professor Jodie Dodd, a maternal fetal medicine specialist, is recognised as being at the forefront of a paradigm shift

in the management and prevention of obesity in pregnancy, which has occurred worldwide over the last decade. The outcomes of her research, a series of unique and harmonised RCTs and associated systematic reviews and individual participant data studies, have changed clinical guidance internationally. She has achieved a seamless integration of research findings into evidence-based clinical practice.

Professor Dodd is a clinical and academic leader who has contributed immensely to capacity building in the sector.

Professor Pat Dudgeon

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Research Professor

Institute: The University of Western Australia

State: Western Australia

Professor Pat Dudgeon is from the Bardi people of the Kimberley. She was Australia's first Aboriginal psychologist and has had an outstanding career in Aboriginal mental health and wellbeing, developing innovative methodologies to include deep Indigenous knowledge in health and medical sciences research and services. She has shown how the specific historical, socio-economic, political, cultural and racist factors interact and contribute to mental health problems in Aboriginal populations. Her main focus has been on suicide prevention for First Nations people. Professor Dudgeon's vision, innovation, leadership, and stamina have seen her found the discipline of Indigenous Psychology in Australia, develop a framework of social and emotional wellbeing, pioneer research methodologies that empower community self-determination and engagement, and establish international networks committed to de-colonising health and psychology. This has transformed policy and practice for Indigenous peoples worldwide.





Professor Jonathan Golledge

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor of Vascular Surgery

Institute: James Cook University

State: Queensland

Professor Jonathan Golledge is an NHMRC Practitioner Fellow and vascular surgeon recognised as an international leader in artery disease. During the last 15 years, he established a translational research program which has culminated in bringing multiple new drugs and management approaches to clinical trials. The largest of these, testing a repurposed drug for artery weakening, is just about to commence after being funded by the NHMRC and New Zealand Health Research Council for more than \$6 million. This trial will be the largest drug trial for artery weakening ever performed (five-fold bigger than any past trial) and involves sites in multiple countries.

Professor Ron Grunstein

Honours and Recognition: AM FAHMS

Primary Position: Head, Sleep and Circadian
Research Group

Institute: Woolcock Institute of Medical Research

State: New South Wales



Professor Ron Grunstein AM is the leading sleep medicine clinician-researcher in Australia and one of the world leaders in this discipline. He has been engaged in the field from its early origins and has played a major role in the development of the academic, clinical, professional and policy aspects of this discipline. His work has explored the respiratory, cardiovascular, neurological, hormonal and behavioural consequences of sleep disorders and the effectiveness of various modes of therapy.

Professor Grunstein's work has made sleep and wakefulness safer for all Australians.



Professor Rebecca Guy

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Leader, Approaches to Surveillance Cross Cutting Theme

Institute: The Kirby Institute

State: New South Wales

Professor Rebecca Guy, Leader of the Approaches to Surveillance Cross Cutting Theme at The Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney, is a renowned international authority in the surveillance and evaluation of public health interventions related to HIV and sexually transmissible infections.

Professor Guy's work has received continuous funding by the NHMRC during the past 10 years. She has delivered more than 50 national and international invited talks including the Gollow Lecture – the most prestigious sexual health lecture in Australia.

Professor Guy has also served extensively on many state, commonwealth and international committees, including for the World Health Organization.

Professor Rana Hinman

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor

Institute: The University of Melbourne

State: Victoria



Professor Rana Hinman is a physiotherapist who leads research focused on improving the health of people living with osteoarthritis. Her multi-disciplinary research produces and translates innovative, robust and pragmatic evidence about non-drug, non-surgical approaches to managing osteoarthritis symptoms, including novel methods of service delivery. Her research has informed Australian and international clinical practice guidelines, as well as national osteoarthritis research strategy, policy and models of care.

Professor Hinman has approximately 250 peer-reviewed papers, has made sustained contributions to peer review (including editorial boards of leading physiotherapy journals and NHMRC grant review) and has received national and institutional awards for excellence in mentoring research students.



Professor Harriet Hiscock

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Director, Health Services Research

Institute: Murdoch Children's Research Institute

State: Victoria

Professor Harriet Hiscock is internationally renowned for her expertise and leadership in sleep and mental health research. She leads world class health services research to develop, test and implement evidence-based interventions to improve the quality, accessibility, and value of healthcare for paediatric common, high burden conditions. As a clinician-researcher, she has published more than 180 peer reviewed papers. Her sleep interventions have been implemented in the UK, Netherlands, USA, and New Zealand.

Professor Hiscock holds a NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship, leads the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Childhood Adversity, and is the inaugural director of Australia's only paediatric health services research unit.

Professor Kirsten Howard

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Co-Director, Menzies Centre for Health Policy and Economics and Professor, Health Economics

Institute: The University of Sydney

State: New South Wales



Professor Kirsten Howard is an internationally acknowledged leader in health economics. She is the Co-Director of the Menzies Centre for Health Policy and Economics. She has research funding as CI in excess of \$40 million, including leading health economics programs of four CREs. She also co-leads programs around measuring and valuing the quality of life and wellbeing for children and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults and youth.

Professor Howard holds multiple high-level policy relevant appointments, including on the Australian Government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee and Chair of the Economics SubCommittee of PBAC. She led the growth of the health economics group at the University of Sydney from one research fellow to a team of 11.



Professor David Ching Siang Huang

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Laboratory Head, Blood Cells and Blood Cancers Division

Institute: The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

State: Victoria

Professor David Huang is a biomedical researcher who made fundamental research discoveries on programmed cell suicide (apoptosis) that laid the foundations for the discovery and development of a novel class of anti-cancer drugs. He made critical contributions towards revealing how BCL2, often overactive in blood cancers, and its relatives block cell death, thereby uncovering how BCL2 could be targeted in cancer cells. In collaboration with industry partners, this work led to the development of venetoclax to target BCL2.

Venetoclax has proven highly effective and is now approved in Australia and other jurisdictions for patients with some types of leukaemias and lymphomas.

Professor Christine Jenkins

Honours and Recognition: AM FAHMS

Primary Position: Head, Respiratory Group

Institute: The George Institute for Global Health

State: New South Wales



Professor Christine Jenkins AM is a renowned authority in the field of airways diseases – in particular Asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease – whose contributions have spanned from fundamental studies to large NHMRC-funded trials (230+ publications; H-index 50).

Professor Jenkins has also contributed extensively to the profession and substantially raised public understanding of health and medical science, having previously served as President of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand, and currently Chairing the Board of Lung Foundation Australia – the peak national body for lung health advocacy.



Professor Karin Leder

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Head of Infectious Disease
Epidemiology Unit

Institute: Monash University

State: Victoria

Professor Karin Leder is an infectious disease physician, Head of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Monash University) and Director of Travel Medicine and Immigrant Health (Royal Melbourne Hospital). As a world leader in disease spread across international borders, her research outputs have changed global surveillance priorities and clinical management of infections among mobile populations. She also leads a multidisciplinary research program to improve water-sanitation management, reduce health impacts from exposure to environmental microbial contamination and mitigate adverse climate change effects via introduction of sustainable technology into resource-poor settings.

Professor Leder is renowned for mentoring a new generation of independent clinician-researchers.

Professor Louise Maple-Brown

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Senior Principal Research Fellow

Institute: Menzies School of Health Research

State: Northern Territory

Professor Louise Maple-Brown has demonstrated outstanding contributions in clinical impact and leadership.

In 14 years since her PhD, she has established and grown a Darwin-based research program that now has 31 staff, students and early-career researchers. Her program is the first and largest Australian partnership between researchers, policy makers and health services on intergenerational diabetes, and the largest such program globally for First Nations people.

Professor Maple-Brown was the first to identify and describe the intergenerational nature of the diabetes epidemic among Aboriginal Australians. She pioneered the national response, establishing clinical registers, defining research priorities and building capacity in health systems.





Professor Helen Marshall

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor in Vaccinology and Deputy Director, Robinson Research Institute

Institute: The University of Adelaide

State: South Australia

Professor Helen Marshall is an international leader in vaccinology and infectious disease epidemiology, with significant and sustained achievement in vaccine research and translation to practice and policy. Her work underpins changes in vaccination practise for children, adolescents, and pregnant women in Australia and internationally. Her leadership of the largest interventional herd immunity RCT globally, published in *NEJM*, informs meningococcal vaccine programs worldwide.

As Deputy Director of the Robinson Research Institute and NHMRC Practitioner Fellow, Professor Marshall contributes extensively to national (ATAGI) and international (WHO) immunisation policy, is recognised by many awards including NHMRC “10 of the Best”. She is a vocal public advocate for immunisation.

Professor Colette McKay

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Principal Scientist

Institute: The Bionics Institute of Australia

State: Victoria

Professor Colette McKay has conducted world-leading interdisciplinary research that vitally contributed to the efficacy of Australia’s most successful medical device, the cochlear implant. Her work, which combines behavioural studies with mathematical modelling, electrophysiology, and brain imaging, has derived important information about how the brain’s auditory pathways process electrical stimulation. She has applied this knowledge to the improvement of cochlear implants and to the development of an auditory midbrain implant for those who cannot benefit from a cochlear implant. Six patent families have flowed from Professor McKay’s work, which is utilised by researchers and companies worldwide to benefit deaf individuals.





Professor Jodie McVernon

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor and Director of Doherty Epidemiology

Institute: The Doherty Institute

State: Victoria

Over the past 15 years, Professor Jodie McVernon has contributed to Australians' health, informing national policy on influenza pandemic preparedness and response, and immunisation. In 2020, she was an invited expert member of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, which advised the National Cabinet throughout the COVID-19 response. She was a member of the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation for eight years, including contributions to H1N1 and COVID-19 vaccine strategies.

Professor McVernon has grown national and regional capacity for modelling and its use in policy. Her expertise is recognised internationally through membership of the World Health Organisation and other advisory groups.

Professor Alicia Oshlack

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Co-Head of the Computational Biology Program

Institute: Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

State: Victoria



Professor Alicia Oshlack is an expert in computational biology who has developed a range of widely used bioinformatics analysis methods that underly many of the genomic technologies used today. Her extensive analytical and computational skills and research contributions are now part of the standard approaches for the analysis of RNA sequencing and human methylation investigations.

Professor Oshlack's work has contributed to the areas of cancer, rare disease and development, and has provided better analytical methods for thousands of other research projects worldwide.



Professor George Patton

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Group Leader, Adolescent Health

Institute: Murdoch Children's Research Institute

State: Victoria

Professor George Patton is an adolescent psychiatrist and epidemiologist. He has revolutionised our understanding of the place of adolescence in health, growth and development across the life-course, and into the next generation. As Professorial Fellow in Adolescent Health Research at MCRI and NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow, his research group has become the world's most influential in shaping global adolescent health policies.

Professor Patton's expertise and leadership are recognised globally, serving as consultant and adviser to many departments within WHO, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Bank, including advising WHO's Director General on adolescent health.

Professor Richard Price

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor of Global Health

Institute: Menzies School of Health Research

State: Northern Territory

Professor Richard Price is Professor of Global Health at the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin. He is a leading authority on multidrug resistant malaria and *Plasmodium vivax*. His research has highlighted the importance of the vivax malaria, which causes millions of illnesses each year and is now becoming the predominant cause of malaria in Asia and the Americas.

Professor Price has coordinated, led, and successfully guided to completion the largest ever prospective studies of vivax malaria conducted across the tropics from Ethiopia to Indonesia. This research has contributed significantly to international policies and practices, and has had a substantial impact on health and wellbeing in malaria endemic areas.





Professor Danny Rischin

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Director Medical Oncology

Institute: Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

State: Victoria

Professor Danny Rischin is the Director of Medical Oncology at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

A highly productive clinician-researcher, he has made significant and sustained contributions to advancing knowledge and in developing new therapies for head and neck cancer and cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma.

Professor Rischin is an international leader in head and neck cancer, with his work having had a significant impact on clinical practice. In his leadership roles in co-operative clinical trials groups and as the director of a pre-eminent medical oncology department he has mentored and supervised many successful clinician-researchers.

Professor Sir John Savill

Honours and Recognition: FRS FAHMS

Primary Position: Executive Director

Institute: Melbourne Academic Centre for Health

State: Victoria

Professor Sir John Savill has combined clinical practice in nephrology and acute medicine with research into cell clearance by apoptosis in resolution of inflammation, leading the establishment of the MRC Centre for Inflammation Research and the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh. He led national translational initiatives as Chief Scientist in the Scottish Government Health Directorates and as Chief Executive of the UK Medical Research Council.

Sir John now leads the Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH). Professor Savill led the development of UK integrated clinical academic training pathways and has established an Australian pilot for clinician scientist training, the MACH-Track.





Professor Kanta Subbarao

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza

Institute: The Doherty Institute

State: Victoria

Professor Kanta Subbarao is a virologist and paediatric infectious diseases specialist. She is an expert on the biology, pathogenesis and vaccines for emerging viral diseases of global importance: influenza, SARS, MERS and COVID-19, with 200 peer-reviewed papers and 72 reviews/chapters. She is a member of WHO advisory panels on seasonal and pandemic influenza and COVID-19 vaccines, the Australian National Influenza Surveillance Committee and several Scientific Advisory Boards.

Professor Subbarao is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and is on the editorial board of PLoS Pathogens, mBio, *Journal of Virology*, Cell Host and Microbe and Med.

Professor Penny Webb

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Group Leader

Institute: QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

State: Queensland



Professor Penny Webb is recognised nationally and internationally for her work and global leadership in the epidemiology of ovarian and endometrial cancer. She is on the steering committee of the international Ovarian Cancer Association Consortium (OCAC) and a senior member (past chair) of the OCAC Epidemiology Working Group. She is the lead author of an epidemiology textbook now in its 4th Edition (2020) that has sold more than 35,000 copies worldwide. Previously, she conducted seminal research into the role of *Helicobacter pylori* in gastric cancer.

Professor Webb was awarded Life Membership of the Australasian Epidemiological Association (2019) in recognition of her contributions to the field.



Professor Andrew Whitehouse

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Angela Wright Bennett Professor of Autism Research; Head, Autism Research Team; Director, CliniKid

Institute: Telethon Kids Institute

State: Western Australia

Professor Andrew Whitehouse's research has directly led to improved clinical management for children on the autism spectrum, and driven transformational policy reform across the health, education and disability sectors in Australia. He has contributed major scientific advances in autism assessment and intervention, and pioneered new methods for world-wide science communication. In addition, Professor Whitehouse has led many of the most impactful research initiatives in the field, including a Cooperative Research Centre, one of the world's largest autism biobanks, the Australian Autism Research Council, and numerous mentoring schemes for early career researchers.

Professor Whitehouse's research achievements have been recognised through a Eureka Prize.

Professor Ingrid Winship

Honours and Recognition: AO FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor of Adult Clinical Genetics

Institute: The Royal Melbourne Hospital

State: Victoria



Professor Ingrid Winship AO, clinician-scientist in clinical genetics, cancer genetics and genodermatology, is a leader in genetics research and health services. She is Chair of the Australian Health Ethics Committee and a member of the NHMRC Council. Professor Winship has translated research in genetics and cancer prevention into state-of-the-art clinical services, alongside person centred care, innovation, community engagement, teaching, succession planning and mentoring.

In 2020, Professor Winship received the award of the Order of Australia in recognition of her "distinguished service to medicine particularly to clinical genetics and research, to cancer prevention, and as a role model and mentor."

CORRESPONDING FELLOW



Professor Tien Wong

Honours and Recognition: FAHMS

Primary Position: Professor and Medical Director;
Honorary Professorial Fellow,
University of Melbourne

Institute: Singapore National Eye Centre

State: Singapore

Professor Tien Wong is a physician-scientist in ophthalmology and epidemiology who has made substantial contributions in the understanding of the global epidemiology and risk factors of visual impairment and major eye diseases, particularly diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration and myopia – three leading causes of blindness globally. For more than 20 years, Professor Wong's seminal research on the prevalence, trends, and risk factors for eye diseases in Asia has resulted in new population data, previously lacking in Asia, on the prevalence and incidence of eye diseases, providing a foundation for public health ophthalmology in Asia.

Professor Wong's more recent work on diabetic retinopathy screening using artificial intelligence may provide a foundation for the prevention of blindness in many countries.



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