



Life as a Clinician-Scientist

SKILL-UP SERIES

Webinar



Australian
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Online **Monday 25 May 2026**

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Our Fellows are the very best of Australia's health and medical researchers and clinician-scientists.

We serve the public good by drawing on this expertise and our ability to bring together the right people across research, policy and practice to provide independent, evidence-based advice on the issues that shape Australia's health – to government, health leaders and the community.

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	WEBINAR OPENING
4.00pm AEST	<i>Welcome and Introduction</i> Professor Louise Baur AM PresAHMS President, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and Professor of Child and Adolescent Health, The University of Sydney
	SKILL-UP SESSION
4.10pm AEST	<i>Failing Forward - Setbacks, Pivots and What Comes Next?</i> Professor Sue Walker AO FAHMS Head of Department, Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Newborn Health, The University of Melbourne and Co-Director, Mercy Perinatal, Mercy Hospital for Women
4.30pm AEST	<i>Q&A Session</i>
	PANEL DISCUSSION
4.40pm AEST	Professor James Chong Cardiologist, Westmead Hospital, and Co-Director, Centre for Heart Research, Westmead Institute for Medical Research, Sydney Dr Isaac Rad Pharmacist & Resident Medical Officer, Princess Alexandra Hospital Professor Janet Sluggett Professor in Pharmacy and Pharmacoepidemiology, Enterprise Fellow, School of Allied Health & Human Performance, College of Health, Adelaide University
5.00pm AEST	<i>Q&A Session</i>
5.30pm AEST	WEBINAR CLOSE

Speakers



Professor Louise Baur AM PresAHMS

President, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and Professor of Child and Adolescent Health, The University of Sydney

Professor Louise Baur is Professor of Child and Adolescent Health at The University of Sydney where she is an NHMRC leadership Fellow and Director of the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence on the Early Prevention of Obesity in Childhood. She is also a consultant paediatrician in Weight Management Services at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. Professor Baur's research interests cover many aspects of child and adolescent obesity, and related health issues.

In 2010 Professor Baur was made a Member of the Order of Australia for service to medicine, particularly in the field of paediatric obesity as a researcher and academic, and to the community through support for a range of children's charities. She is the Immediate Past-President of the World Obesity Federation. In 2023 she was elected as the President of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.



Professor Sue Walker AO FAHMS

Head of Department, Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Newborn Health, The University of Melbourne and Co-Director, Mercy Perinatal, Mercy Hospital for Women

Professor Sue Walker is the Head of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Newborn Health at The University of Melbourne since 2016 and is also the Chair of the Division of Perinatal Medicine at the Mercy Hospital for Women. She was appointed to the Sheila Handbury Chair of Maternal Fetal Medicine, University of Melbourne in 2011.

She is currently co-Director of Mercy Perinatal, a centre of excellence in clinical care, education and research in high-risk pregnancy. Her research interests include improved detection of fetal growth disorders, new treatments for preeclampsia, and reducing the burden of preventable stillbirth.

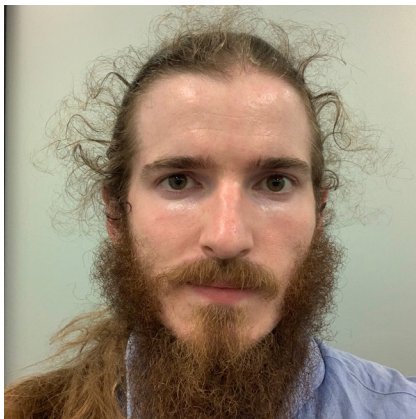


Professor James Chong

**Cardiologist, Westmead Hospital, and
Co-Director, Centre for Heart Research,
Westmead Institute for Medical
Research, Sydney**

Professor James Chong is an internationally recognised leader in regenerative cardiology. His group pioneers the use of pluripotent stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes to repair the injured heart, coupling fundamental developmental biology, translational studies, and first-in-human trial planning. His team also develops advanced human cardiac disease models to accelerate therapeutic discovery and precision medicine approaches for heart failure.

James' work is funded by Australia's leading biomedical agencies, including the NHMRC, MRFF, and National Heart Foundation, and is published in leading journals including Nature, Nature Cardiovascular Research, Cell Stem Cell, Science Translational Medicine, and Nature Communications. He is committed to translating next generation regenerative therapies from bench to bedside for patients with otherwise untreatable heart disease



Dr Isaac Rad

**Pharmacist & Resident Medical Officer,
Princess Alexandra Hospital**

Dr Isaac Rad graduated with a Pharmacy degree from the University of Queensland in 2017. Following a stint of full-time work, he returned to the University of Queensland to complete an intercalated MD-PhD, whilst working as a pharmacist.

His research involves ultrasound-mediated drug delivery into immune-privileged organs, including the brain and eye. After completion of the first year of his PhD he changed labs and pivoted to a new project, where he progressed an acoustofluidic ocular drug delivery platform toward clinical translation.

He is currently working as a Resident Medical Officer at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and hopes to undertake Fellowship training in Ophthalmology.



Professor Janet Sluggett

Professor in Pharmacy and Pharmacoeconomics, Enterprise Fellow, School of Allied Health & Human Performance, College of Health, Adelaide University

Professor Janet Sluggett is a Professor in Pharmacy and Pharmacoeconomics, Enterprise Fellow and NHMRC EL2 Fellow at Adelaide University and an Affiliate Postdoctoral Researcher at SAHMRI. She is also a Non-Executive Director of Southern Cross Care (SA, NT, VIC) and the Australian MedicAlert Foundation.

Janet is an experienced pharmacoeconomist and pharmacy practice researcher whose work focuses on optimising medicines use for older people. She leads a multidisciplinary research team that uses mixed methods to identify opportunities to improve medicines management in aged care, co-design and evaluate new models of care, and translate evidence into policy and practice.

During her career, Janet has secured \$22 million in competitive research funding as a chief investigator, published 120 original research papers, and delivered >75 invited talks.

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Woolloongabba, QLD 4102

PO Box 6114
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

e info@aahms.org p +61 7 3102 7220

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