

# Centre for Cell Therapy & Regenerative Medicine Annual Research Symposium

12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – 8.45am-5.00pm  
Curtin University, Building 213, Room 104

## PROGRAM

- 08:30     **Registration**
- 08.45     Welcome  
          Prof Michael Berndt, Pro Vice-Chancellor  
          Curtin University, Faculty of Health Sciences
- Prof John Mamo, Director  
          Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute
- Session 1 Chair:** Associate Prof Pritinder Kaur
- 09.00     Prof David Becker  
          Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine  
          Nanyang Technological University  
          ***Targeting gap junctions to promote tissue repair***
- 09.35     Dr Nicole Smith  
          School of Molecular Sciences  
          University of Western Australia  
          ***Profiling G-quadruplex DNA in fibrosis and astrogliosis***
- 09.55     Huan Ting Ong  
          Ear Science Institute Australia &  
          University of Western Australia  
          ***A bioinformatics approach to secretome of mesenchymal stem cells for wound healing***
- 10.10     Prof Deirdre Coombe  
          Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute  
          School of Biomedical Sciences, Curtin University  
          ***Dermal fibroblast extracellular matrix directs keratinocyte differentiation***
- 10.30     **Morning Tea**
- Session 2 Chair:** Associate Prof Rod Dilley
- 11.00     Prof Geoff Laurent  
          Centre for Cell Therapy & Regenerative  
          Medicine University of Western Australia  
          ***From muscle to lung regeneration: having fun and getting funded***
- 11.35     Associate Prof Steve Mutsaers  
          Centre for Cell Therapy & Regenerative  
          Medicine University of Western Australia  
          ***GANT61: A novel treatment for Malignant Mesothelioma***



11.55 Wissam Chiha  
Experimental and Regenerative  
Neurosciences  
University of Western Australia  
***AAV-Mediated expression of BDNF and  
CRMP2 promotes long term  
neuroprotection of adult rat retinal  
ganglion cells and axons following optic  
nerve injury***

12.10 Xiao Zhang  
Lions Eye Institute  
University of Western Australia  
***Personalised disease modelling for Inherited  
Retinal Diseases using patient derived  
induced pluripotent stem cells***

12.25 **Lunch**

**Session 3 Chair:** Dr Cecilia Prêle

13.30 Prof Andrew Elefanty  
Blood Cell Development & Disease Laboratory  
Murdoch Childrens Research Institute  
***Dissection of haematopoietic differentiation  
from human pluripotent stem cells.***

14.05 Professor George Yeoh  
Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research  
University of Western Australia  
***Establishing and maintaining human liver  
progenitor cells in culture***

14.25 Dr Nina Tirnitz-Parker  
Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute  
School of Biomedical Sciences, Curtin University  
***Targeting the TWEAK/Fn14 pathway to  
prevent chronic liver disease progression***

14.45 Livia Carvalho  
Lions Eye Institute  
University of Western Australia  
***Role of the voltage-gated potassium channel  
subunit Kv8.2 in inherited retinal disease  
and interaction with other channel proteins***

15.00 **Afternoon Tea**

**Session 4 Chair:** Dr Fred Chen

15.30 Dr Brendan Kennedy  
Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research  
University of Western Australia  
***Optical elastography: imaging the micro-scale  
mechanical properties of soft tissues***

16.05 Isabel Hemming  
Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research  
University of Western Australia  
***Disease-associated mutations in RP58 disrupt  
its neuronal functions through a molecular  
mechanism involving transcriptional regulation***

16.20 Prof Ming Hao Zheng  
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health  
Sciences, University of Western Australia  
***Tendon stem cell fate and its feasibility for  
treatment of tendinopathy in humans***

**Chair:** Prof Deirdre Coombe

16.40 Wrap-up & prizes

17.00 Sundowner – Building 305, Room 139