

Melbourne Children's Global Health

Melbourne Children's

A world leader in child and adolescent health



Supported by The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation



OFFICIAL LAUNCH AND SEMINAR PROGRAM

9:00am-4:30pm Friday 14 December 2018

Ella Latham Auditorium
Royal Children's Hospital
50 Flemington Road
Parkville Victoria 3010, Australia

Welcome

9:15am-10:00am

Welcome to the official launch of Melbourne Children's Global Health. Melbourne Children's Global Health is an initiative of the Melbourne Children's Campus – a partnership of the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, The University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics and The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. Supported by the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation.

Master of Ceremonies: Sushi Das

Professor Kathryn North AM Director, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Professor John Prins, Head, Melbourne Medical School, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, The University of Melbourne

The Hon Rob Knowles AO Chair, Board, The Royal Children's Hospital

Professor James Angus AO Chair, Campus Council, Melbourne Children's Campus

Professor Kim Mulholland and Professor Andrew Steer Co-Chairs, Melbourne Children's Global Health

Official Launch

10:00am-10:15am

Melbourne Children's Global Health will be officially launched by Professor Yati Soenarto, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia. Followed by a media briefing and Q&A with three outstanding early-career researchers and clinicians from Melbourne Children's Global Health and our partner institutions to describe some of the significant contributions of the Melbourne Children's Campus to global child and adolescent health.

Facilitator: Professor Kathryn North AM

Q&A: Dr Jarir At Thobari, Ms Kathryn Snow and Dr Monica Brook

Morning Tea

10:15am-10:45am

Progress towards Global Goals

10:45am-12:30pm

Celebrating the substantial progress that has been made over the last two decades through the United Nation's 'Global Goals'. These presentations will set the contributions of the Melbourne Children's Campus in the context of the successes, challenges and opportunities for global child and adolescent health. **Chair: Mark Sullivan, Founder and Managing Director, Medicines Development for Global Health**

10:50am-11:15am	The promise of vaccines Professor Julie Bines Since 1990, the number of deaths each year of children under five years has halved. Vaccines are the biggest reason for this reduction in childhood deaths. This presentation will focus on how vaccines have prevented deaths from common diseases including pneumonia and diarrhoea.
11:15am-11:40am	Achieving a triple dividend in adolescent health Professor George Patton With a reduction in child mortality the global health agenda has shifted to the challenges and opportunities for adolescent health as well as disability and child development.
11:40am-12:05pm	Great care, everywhere? Professor Trevor Duke With shifts in health care systems in Asia and the Pacific, many countries increase their focus on quality, safety and long-term outcomes, but how do we ensure others are not left behind?
12:05pm-12:30pm	Career pathways and opportunities for the next generation Professor Fiona Russell Global health focuses on inequalities in health and the increasing interconnectedness of the determinants of health. This requires an understanding of diverse perspectives from epidemiology and public health to a range of social sciences. How do you gain a skillset which will support a career in global child health?

Lunch

12:30pm-1:30pm

Equal to the challenge

1:30pm-3:45pm

While progress in reducing child deaths has been substantial, it has not been equitable. Equity is a core principle in global health and central to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). More efforts are needed to tackle persistent inequity while also addressing emerging health issues. These short talks will focus on current challenges and opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of children and adolescents. **Chair: The Hon John Brumby AO, Chair, Global Health Alliance Melbourne**

1.35pm-1.45pm	Training may not work but education matters Dr Amy Gray
1.45pm-1.55pm	The WHO Global Child Cancer Initiative: meeting the challenge of childhood cancer in Oceania Professor Michael Sullivan
1.55pm-2.05pm	Strengthening laboratory capacity for global health equity Associate Professor Catherine Satzke
2.05pm-2.15pm	Diseases of inequity: scabies and other neglected tropical diseases Dr Daniel Engelman
2.15pm-2.25pm	Humanitarian emergencies: child health on the frontline Dr Hamish Graham
2.25pm-2.35pm	One million annual newborn deaths: Regional challenges and opportunities in the era of SDGs Dr Shidan Tosif
2.35pm-2.45pm	Improving health of children with disabilities: listening more to see better Dr Kate Milner
2.45pm-2.55pm	Responding to the needs of adolescents: a third of today's world Dr Peter Azzopardi

Panel

3.00pm-3.45pm

Panelists will reflect on the challenges and opportunities raised by our speakers in the context of equity and achieving the SDGs.

Professor Kim Mulholland, Co-Chair, Melbourne Children's Global Health
Professor Barbara McPake, Director, Nossal Institute for Global Health, The University of Melbourne
Dr Christopher Morgan, Head, International Development, Burnet Institute

Afternoon tea

3:45pm-4:30pm

Seminar concludes

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Melbourne Children's Global Health is on Twitter! We'll be tweeting from @MelbourneGlobal, and using the hashtags #globalchildhealth, #MelbourneGlobal, and #globalyouthhealth. Follow along, retweet and share your photos of the day with us.

Biographies

James Angus AO is Chair of The Campus Council and a Professorial Fellow in The Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine Dentistry and Health Sciences at The University of Melbourne. He was Dean of this Faculty for 10 years during a massive infrastructure building phase in the Medical Parkville precinct.

Peter Azzopardi leads a program of research around adolescent health metrics and indicators. He is co-head of adolescent health at the Burnet Institute, a clinical research fellow at the Wardliparingga Aboriginal Research Unit and a team leader in the Population Health theme, Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

Julie Bines is the Victor and Loti Smorgon Professor of Paediatrics at The University of Melbourne and a Paediatric Gastroenterologist and Director of Clinical Nutrition at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. Julie leads the Rotavirus Vaccine Program at Murdoch Children's Research Institute to develop an affordable neonatal rotavirus vaccine, RV3-BB vaccine, aimed at preventing rotavirus disease from birth.

John Brumby is a former Premier of Victoria and well known for his long-term commitment to health and medical research. He is currently the Chair of the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute as well as BioCurate.

Journalist and author, **Sushi Das**, is the Chief of Staff at RMIT ABC Fact Check, Australia's premier fact-checking unit. Formerly, she was the opinion editor at The Age newspaper, where she worked for more than two decades.

Trevor Duke is a paediatrician, professor in the Centre for International Child Health at The University of Melbourne, and clinical director of general intensive care at The Royal Children's Hospital. He is head of the WHO Collaborating Centre for child and neonatal health, and Adjunct Professor of child health at the School of Medicine in the University of Papua New Guinea.

Daniel Engelman is a paediatrician, NHMRC Early Career Research Fellow and Melbourne Children's Campus Clinician Scientist Fellow. He is committed to the prevention of tropical diseases affecting disadvantaged children and adolescents, including scabies, skin infection and rheumatic heart disease.

Hamish Graham is a paediatrician and researcher who started his career in child health working with Médecins Sans Frontières in Darfur, Sudan. One decade on, Hamish's areas of research and practice include refugee and humanitarian health, child pneumonia and oxygen therapy, and care for children with chronic health conditions.

Steve Graham is a paediatrician with The University of Melbourne's Centre for International Child Health, leader of MCRI's International Child Health group and Senior Advisor on TB with the Burnet Institute. Steve has many years of clinical, research and training experience in neonatal, child and adolescent health in high-mortality settings in African and Asia-Pacific regions.

Amy Gray is a General Paediatrician and the Director of Medical Education at RCH, and a Senior Lecturer in The University of Melbourne. Her work in both high and low resource settings aims to understand ways educational interventions can have their greatest impact on the care patients receive.

Hon **Rob Knowles AO** was Victorian Minister for Health from 1996 until 1999 and MLC for Ballarat from 1976-1999. He has also served as Chairman of Food Standards Australia and New Zealand; as a member of the National Health & Hospital Reform Commission and as a former Aged Care Complaints Commissioner. He is currently Chairman of the Mental Health Council of Australia, Chairman of Campus Council at The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, a Director of Silver Chain / RDNS South Australia; a member of the Deans External Advisory Council for the Faculty of Medicine, Health Sciences & Nursing at the University of Melbourne and a Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

Barbara McPake is the Director of the Nossal Institute for Global Health, The University of Melbourne. She is a health economist specialising in health policy and health systems research.

Kate Milner is a paediatrician with the Department of Neurodevelopment & Disability, Royal Children's Hospital and consultant in child development at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Her research focuses on understanding outcomes for survivors of neonatal complications and interventions to improve care of children with disabilities and their families in low and middle income countries.

Chris Morgan is a paediatrician and public health professional with over 25 years experience in health development programs in Asia, Africa and the Pacific. He is head of international development at the Burnet Institute and chairs the World Health Organization's Immunization Practices Advisory Committee.

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Kim Mulholland is a paediatrician from Melbourne who has spent most of his career addressing health issues affecting children in low income settings, initially in Africa. Since 2000 he has been working from the Melbourne Children's Campus to establish research programs designed to improve access to life saving, new vaccines in the Asia Pacific region. His current research programs are focused on Vietnam, Mongolia, Fiji, India and Ethiopia.

Kathryn North AM is one of Australia's leading and influential physician scientists. Trained as a paediatrician, neurologist and clinical geneticist, Kathryn is recognised as a world leader in neurofibromatosis, the study of genes that influence athletic performance and muscle disease and genomic medicine.

George Patton is an NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow with a clinical background in child and adolescent psychiatry and research background in developmental and global epidemiology. He chaired the Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing and led two special Series for the Journal. He has had consultant and advisory roles with WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, USAID and the World Bank.

John Prins began as Head of the Melbourne Medical School in October 2018. His previous roles were as CEO of the Mater Hospital Group, Director of the Mater Medical Research Institute, Director of Diabetes and Endocrinology at Princess Alexandra Hospital and Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Queensland. John is an active clinician-scientist, a key opinion leader in diabetes and endocrinology in Australia. He has significant corporate experience, including founding a spin-out Biotech company, Adipogen Pty Ltd, and has ongoing active research and commercialisation activities in diabetes drug development.

Fiona Russell is a paediatrician and Director of the Child and Adolescent PhD Program at the University of Melbourne. Her research includes novel approaches to undertaking vaccine impact evaluations in field sites in the Asia-Pacific region.

Catherine Satzke leads the pneumococcal microbiology laboratory at Murdoch Children's Research Institute. She is an NHMRC Career Development Fellow, and was an inaugural veski 'inspiring women' Fellow. Catherine's research includes measuring the impact of pneumococcal vaccines in low-income settings to support global vaccination strategies.

Andrew Steer is a paediatric infectious diseases physician at The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne; Director of the Infection and Immunity Theme, and Group Leader of the Tropical Diseases Research Group at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute; and Professorial Research Fellow in the Department of Paediatrics, The University of Melbourne.

Mark Sullivan is the founder and managing director of not-for-profit Medicines Development for Global Health, a Melbourne-based company focussed on addressing health inequity. MDGH is the first Australian company to achieve FDA approval of a novel small molecule and the first not-for-profit company in history to achieve this milestone. Their new medicine, moxidectin, treats river blindness, a debilitating disease endemic amongst the world's poorest people. The company has received a valuable priority review voucher and is moving on to tackle scabies and other neglected tropical diseases. Mark is the 2019 Australian of the Year for Victoria.

Michael Sullivan is a Paediatric Oncologist in the Children's Cancer Centre at The Royal Children's Hospital and the Department of Paediatrics, The University of Melbourne. He is Continental President for the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) and Co-Chair of the SIOP Paediatric Oncology in Developing Countries Working Group. He represents SIOP as an advisor and working group member of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer, and the Lancet Commission on Paediatric Oncology.

Shidan Tosif is a paediatrician at The Royal Children's Hospital, with a passion for improving newborn care in low resource settings. He is the research lead in a multifaceted intervention to improve newborn care in the Solomon Islands.

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What is Melbourne Children's Global Health? What will we do?

Melbourne Children's Global Health is an initiative to improve the health of children and adolescents in disadvantaged populations globally through partnerships in research, public health, education and advocacy.

The initiative has been created by Murdoch Children's Research Institute, the University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics, and the Royal Children's Hospital under the auspices of the Melbourne Children's Campus, and with the support of the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation.

Melbourne Children's Global Health will develop health leaders and improve young lives by:

- Developing and delivering new vaccines to protect against childhood diseases
- Evaluating public health interventions for child development and disability, adolescent health and prevention of disease epidemics
- Improving clinical care in hospitals through education, training and quality improvement
- Enhancing the capacity of clinicians and educators and researchers from Melbourne and low- and middle-income countries to collaborate.

Melbourne Children's Global Health will build on the successes of our work with partners in low- and middle-income countries in the past 50 years, including:

- Discovering the role of rotavirus in deadly diarrhoea and developing a vaccine that can be given at birth, which is being trialled in Indonesia
- Reducing child deaths from pneumonia globally through comprehensive care programs, trials and guidance on the best vaccines
- Advising on the use of mass drug administration to eliminate scabies in communities
- Advocating for the prevention of child tuberculosis
- Compiling global evidence on adolescent health and wellbeing, including The Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing
- Reducing newborn and child deaths by around one third in hospitals in Asia and the Pacific through implementation of quality improvement programs.

Many challenges still remain, including:

- Two million children die annually from pneumonia and diarrhoea before their fifth birthday
- At least 7.5 million children are infected with TB, and 233,000 die from it each year
- Adolescents are at the centre of global unemployment, civic unrest, conflict, urbanisation and migration, each of which poses threats to health and wellbeing
- Forty per cent of all deaths in children under five occur in the first month of life.

Melbourne Children's Global Health will enhance the ability of our researchers, clinicians, and educators to contribute to global child and adolescent health equity, including by:

- Speeding up development of new vaccines for example against stomach cancer (*Helicobacter pylori*), rheumatic heart disease (group A streptococcus), infant bronchiolitis and asthma (respiratory syncytial virus) and typhoid fever
- Bringing our new rotavirus vaccine to more children, faster
- Evaluating the effectiveness of vaccine programs
- Trialling new mental health interventions for adolescents in low- to middle-income nations
- Developing ways to detect and manage drug-resistant TB
- Helping to save young lives through training and education support for high quality care in hospitals and health centres.

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Melbourne Children's Global Health will:

Enhance existing projects by

- Empowering our people to work across campus creating teams with a critical mass
- Enhancing the capacity of our teams to negotiate and partner with global agencies such as the WHO and GAVI
- Building stronger long-term links with governments and health agencies in our region
- Making it easier for our staff and students to work 'in-country' by providing processes to contract local staff, make payments, and negotiate permissions with government agencies
- Creating clearer career paths for young researchers, clinicians and educators seeking to work in global health
- Enabling more effective advocacy nationally, regionally, and globally.

Develop new projects in

- Health and wellbeing across the life course
- Neurodevelopment and disability – creating early intervention programs to transform lives
- Support for health during conflict and natural disasters
- Better use of antibiotics and management of drug resistant infections
- Ensuring health practitioners have access to the best evidence-based care guidelines for common illnesses
- Clinical training for health professionals from our neighbours
- Partnerships with regional universities to build capacity in training and research in child health

Equity is a core principle in global health and a central component of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our initiative will contribute to Goal 3, to achieve good health and wellbeing for all children and adolescents. Our work will align with the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent Health 2016–2030.

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