

Australian Inflammation Centres 2025 Annual Symposium (jointly held with the ASI Innate Immunity Special Interest Group)

The University of Adelaide, November 10-11, 2025



South Australian immunoGENomics Cancer Institute (SAiGENCI)

G030 Lecture Theatre

Lobby, AHMS Building, North Terrace

The University of Adelaide, South Australia

Sponsors



Australian Inflammation Centres



SAiGENCI
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
IMMUNOGENOMICS
CANCER INSTITUTE



**Australian
National
University**



WEHI
brighter together



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA**

CREATE CHANGE



Curtin University



CENTRE FOR
INNATE IMMUNITY AND
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

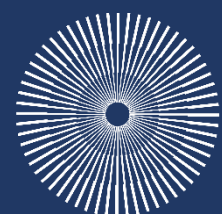


**MONASH
University**

Centre for
Inflammatory Diseases



**QIMR
Berghofer**



SAiGENCI
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
IMMUNOGENOMICS
CANCER INSTITUTE



ADELAIDE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



**THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE**

Australian Inflammation Centres Symposium 2025

Day 1 Program - Monday 10 November 2025

ACDT (Local) AEDT AEST AWST				
9:00	9:30	8:30	6:30	Welcome – Brendan Jenkins, Program Head, SAiGENCI
Session 1: Cell death (sponsored by Australasian Cell Death Society) CHAIRS: Georgia Atkin-Smith (WEHI) and Sabrina Burgener (The University of Queensland)				
9:05	9:35	8:35	6:35	David Huang (WEHI) <i>What have we learnt from targeting BCL2 to treat cancers</i>
9:35	10:05	9:05	7:05	Kate McArthur (Monash University) <i>Investigating mtDNA release during cell death and disease</i>
9:50	10:20	9:20	7:20	Adrian Lee (Westmead Hospital) <i>Defective efferocytosis contributes to inflammation in Sjögren's disease patients</i>
10:05	10:35	9:35	7:35	Kerstin Brinkman (WEHI) <i>MCL-1 in action: Unveiling its dual roles in cell death and metabolism for cancer therapy</i>
10:20	10:50	9:50	7:50	Sven Engel (Doherty Institute) <i>Changing cell death requirements as control of Salmonella infection progresses from innate to adaptive immunity</i>
10:35	11:05	10:05	8:05	*Farzaneh Shojaee (WEHI) <i>Cell Death Signaling and Therapeutic Insights in a Cytokine Storm Syndrome</i>
10:45	11:15	10:15	8:15	Morning Tea Break with Poster Viewing
Session 2: Emerging therapeutics and clinical perspectives I CHAIRS: Christopher Hunter (QIMR Berghofer) and Brittany Hill (The University of Queensland)				
11:05	11:35	10:35	8:35	Michelle Tate (Hudson Institute of Medical Research) <i>Targeting the host: developing dual-action therapies for severe influenza</i>
11:25	11:55	10:55	8:55	Melanie Wu (The University of Queensland) <i>Development of a mouse model for long COVID-19</i>
11:40	12:10	11:10	9:10	Kimberley Clark (SAiGENCI) <i>Inhibition of oncogenic drivers induces inflammatory genes and therapeutic resistance</i>
11:55	12:25	11:25	9:25	Grant Stuchbury (Queensland Emory Drug Discovery Initiative) <i>QEDDI - Designing new medicines to douse the flames of inflammation</i>
12:10	12:40	11:40	9:40	*Shu Wen (Monash Centre for Inflammatory Diseases) <i>Intravital microscopy reveals dynamic platelet aggregation in pulmonary microvasculature after stroke</i>
12:20	12:50	11:50	9:50	*Jan Schafer (WEHI) <i>Developing an mRNA-delivery platform for precision targeting of pulmonary macrophages in lung pathology</i>
12:30	13:00	12:00	10:00	Lunch Break with Poster Viewing



Session 3: Innate immune signalling

CHAIRS: Joshua Chey (SAiGENCI) and Kate Lawlor (Hudson Institute of Medical Research)

13:20	13:50	12:50	10:50	Antje Blumenthal (The University of Queensland) <i>Molecular regulation of TLR4 functions</i>
13:40	14:10	13:10	11:10	Kirsten Hicks (Curtin Medical Research Institute) <i>Heterogeneity of the bone marrow during ageing</i>
13:55	14:25	13:25	11:25	Sabrina Burgener (The University of Queensland) <i>Feeding the inflammasome to damage the liver – new insights into Caspase-1 biology</i>
14:10	14:40	13:40	11:40	Marcia Munoz (Garvan Institute of Medical Research) <i>Distinguishing defective erythropoiesis from anaemia of inflammation in autoinflammatory disease</i>
14:25	14:55	13:55	11:55	Rui Gao (Hudson Institute of Medical Research) <i>Short 2'-O-methyl RNA fragments modulate TLR13 sensing</i>
14:40	15:10	14:10	12:10	*Dominika Michalek (Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre) <i>Mechanisms Controlling RIPK1 Kinase Activity: the Role of MK2-Mediated Phosphorylation</i>
14:50	15:20	14:20	12:20	Afternoon Tea Break with Poster Viewing

Session 4: Inflammation and cancer

CHAIRS – Ruby Dawson (SAiGENCI) and Mara Zeissig (SAiGENCI)

15:10	15:40	14:40	12:40	Kristen Radford (Mater Research) <i>An integrated single cell RNA sequencing atlas for exploring myeloid cell heterogeneity across human cancers</i>
15:30	16:00	15:00	13:00	Yu Chinn Joshua Chey (SAiGENCI) <i>ASC-containing inflammasomes in pancreatic cancer</i>
15:45	16:15	15:15	13:15	Shreya Mahajan (Australia National University) <i>cGAS promotes metabolic processes leading to cancer development</i>
16:00	16:30	15:30	13:30	Zoe Magill (Monash University) <i>The unintended effects of melanoma targeted therapies on dendritic cell-mediated immune responses</i>
16:15	16:45	15:45	13:45	Hannah Newnes (The Kids Research Institute) <i>When type I interferon meets interleukin-4: fine-tuning inflammation to enhance anti-tumour immunity</i>
16:30	17:00	16:00	14:00	Close for the day – Brendan Jenkins

16:45 – 18:15 (ACDT) Networking Session (all attendees): West Oak Hotel – beer garden
(208 Hindley Street, Adelaide)

18:30 – 21:30 (ACDT) Dinner (invited guests): National Wine Centre (Cnr Hackney and Botanic Roads, Adelaide)

* = talk selected from abstracts



Day 2 Program - Tuesday 11 November 2025

Session 5: Infection and inflammation

CHAIRS: Georgette Radford (SAiGENCI) and Rutger Röring (Murdoch Children's Research Institute)

9:00	9:30	8:30	6:30	Carl Feng (The University of Sydney) <i>Inflammatory landscapes of human tuberculosis: from tissue to lesion</i>
9:20	9:50	8:50	6:50	Mohamed Saad (SAiGENCI) <i>Investigating miR-146a as a key modulator of inflammatory responses in pancreatitis</i>
9:35	10:05	9:05	7:05	Cristina Giogha (Hudson Institute of Medical Research) <i>Manipulation of host cell structure and function by gut bacterial pathogens</i>
9:50	10:20	9:20	7:20	Xiahoui Wang (The University of Queensland) <i>Human macrophage sensing of influenza A virus infection</i>
10:05	10:35	9:35	7:35	Cameron Bastow (Monash Centre for Inflammatory Diseases) <i>Establishing clinically relevant models of sepsis to study late-stage complications and enhance drug discovery</i>
10:20	10:50	9:50	7:50	*Marcel Doerflinger (WEHI) <i>Using mouse models to understand and target the drivers of inflammation and disease in acute and long COVID</i>
10:35	11:05	10:05	8:15	*Pravin Rajasekaran (Defence Science & Technology Group) <i>Targeting host cell death with SMAC mimetics to treat Q fever infection</i>
10:45	11:15	10:15	8:15	Morning Tea Break with Poster Viewing

Session 6: Emerging therapeutics and clinical perspectives II

CHAIRS – Matt Sweet and Shu Wen Wen (Monash Centre for Inflammatory Diseases)

11:15	11:45	10:45	8:45	James Vince (WEHI) <i>Intrabodies to regulate cell death and inflammation</i>
11:35	12:05	11:05	9:05	Mireille Lahoud (Monash University) <i>C-type lectin-like receptors: damage recognition and inflammatory regulation</i>
11:50	12:20	11:20	9:20	Yannan Yang (SAiGENCI) <i>Nanotechnology-based in situ vaccines for treating solid tumours</i>
12:05	12:35	11:35	9:35	James Curson (The University of Queensland) <i>Leveraging immunometabolism for anti-infective and anti-inflammatory design</i>
12:20	12:50	11:50	9:50	Eduardo Albornoz (The University of Queensland) <i>Paraquat licenses α-Synuclein to trigger NLRP3-dependent pyroptosis in microglia</i>
12:35	13:05	12:05	10:05	*Christopher Hunter (QIMR Berghofer) <i>Integrating Murine and Human Organoid Models to Elucidate Immune Drivers of Cardiac Dysfunction</i>
12:45	13:15	12:15	10:15	Close and concluding remarks – Dominic De Nardo and Larisa Labzin, ASI Innate Immunity SIG

