Victorian Infection & Immunity Network

# Young Investigator Symposium

Friday 14th November 2025
Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Royal Parade, Parkville

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# Program-at-a-Glance 2025

| FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Time** | **Session** | **Location** |
| **08:15 – 08:50** | **Registration**<br>(Includes transit time to Lecture Theatres) | Sisson's Foyer in Cossar Hall |
| **08:50 – 09:00** | **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **09:00 – 09:45** | **Session 1: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Infection Mechanisms and Host Responses** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **09:45 – 10:20** | **Session 2: Keynote Speaker, Dr Marcel Doerflinger – Laboratory Head, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **10:20 – 11:00** | **Morning Tea**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres) | Cossar Hall |
| **11:00 – 11:40** | **Session 3: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Diagnosing and Targeting Disease** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **11:40 – 12:30** | **Session 4: Science Bites I** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **12:30 – 13:40** | **Lunch and Poster Session I**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres) | Cossar Hall |
| **13:40 – 14:20** | **Session 5: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Adaptive and Cellular Immunity** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **14:20 – 14:55** | **Session 6: Science Bites II** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **14:55 – 15:30** | **Session 7: Keynote Speaker, Dr Nancy Wang – Laboratory Head, Murdoch Children's Research Institute** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **15:30 – 16:10** | **Afternoon Tea**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres) | Cossar Hall |
| **16:10 – 16:40** | **Session 8: Science Bites III** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **16:40 – 17:20** | **Session 9: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Responses to Infection and Treatment** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **17:20 – 17:30** | **Thanks and Announcements** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **17:30 – 18:45** | **Evening Networking and Poster Session II**<br>(Includes transit time from Lecture Theatres) | Cossar Hall |
| **18:45 – 19:00** | **Prizes, Acknowledgements and Conclusion**<br>– Including Hartland Oration Prize winner for 2025<br>**Presented by VIIN Co-Convenors:**<br>**Prof Gilda Tachedjian and Prof Richard Ferrero** | Cossar Hall |

*Program is preliminary and may be subject to change (current version 251106)*

# Friday 14 November: 8.15 am – 7.00 pm

| Time | Session | Location |
|---|---|---|
| **08:15 – 08:50** | **Registration**<br>(Includes transit time to Lecture Theatres) | Sisson's Foyer in Cossar Hall |
| **08:50 – 09:00** | **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**<br>**Chairs: Aaron Brice and Stella Liong** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **09:00 – 09:45** | **Session 1: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Infection Mechanisms and Host Responses**<br>**Chairs: Simona Seizova and Naveen Vankadari** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 09:00 | **Defining how macrophages drive OLAH-mediated life-threatening influenza disease**<br>Deborah Gebregzabher, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 09:10 | **Determinants of innate immune cytokine responses in pre-school children**<br>Rutger Röring, Infection, Immunity and Global Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute; Early Career Researcher | |
| 09:20 | **Proteasome dependent degradation of type I interferon signalling factors during *Shigella flexneri* infection**<br>Anita Chaulagain, Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases (CiiiD), Hudson Institute of Medical Research & Monash University; PhD Student | |
| 09:30 | **Structural basis of DNA sliding clamp-mediated long-range gene silencing on a multi-drug resistance plasmid**<br>Thomas McLean, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; Early Career Researcher | |
| **09:45 – 10:20** | **Session 2: Keynote Speaker – Dr Marcel Doerflinger**<br>**Laboratory Head, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute**<br>**Chairs: Emily Eriksson and Simona Seizova** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 09:45 | **How to become a Laboratory Head…for Dummies (myself)**<br>Dr Marcel Doerflinger<br>Laboratory Head, Infection and Global Health Division, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research | |
| 10:10 | **Q&A** | |
| **10:20 – 11:00** | **Morning Tea**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres) | Cossar Hall |
| **11:00 – 11:40** | **Session 3: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Diagnosing and Targeting Disease**<br>**Chairs: Christophe Macri and Sampa Sarkar** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 11:00 | **A Rapid Point-Of-Care Self-Test For Liver Disease**<br>Angus Watson, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; Research Assistant | |
| 11:10 | **Evidence for repurposing pirfenidone to treat viral exacerbations of COPD based on a novel precision-cut lung slice model**<br>Julia Chitty, Department of Pharmacology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; Early Career Researcher | |

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| 11:20 | **The voltage dependent ion channel is an essential mitochondrial protein in malaria parasites**<br>Mitchell Trickey, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; Early Career Researcher | |
| 11:30 | **Repurposing human medicines as novel antimalarials against *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria**<br>Khoi Nguyen, Burnet Institute & Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Masters Student | |
| **11:40 – 12:30** | **Session 4: Science Bites I**<br><br>**Chairs: Damian Oyong and Ghizal Siddiqui** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 11:42 | **Validation of Solvent Proteome Profiling for Antimalarial Drug Target Deconvolution**<br>Yijia (Jessica) Ji, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; Research Assistant | |
| 11:45 | **Expansion microscopy reveals how Kelch 13 mutations impair feeding in artemisinin resistant *Plasmodium* parasites**<br>Long Huynh, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 11:48 | **Dual inhibition of Plasmepsins IX and X in *Plasmodium falciparum* sporozoites inhibits development within *Anopheles stephensi* mosquitoes**<br>Elena Lantero Escolar, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; Early Career Researcher | |
| 11:51 | **Development of next-generation mRNA vaccines against malaria**<br>Jiaqi Shi, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; Masters Student | |
| 11:54 | **PfPTRAMP-CSS as a multi-stage malaria vaccine target**<br>Pailene Lim, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student | |
| 11:57 | **Enhanced immunogenicity in mouse by recombinant BCG prime and protein boost based on latency antigen Rv1733c and/or reactivation antigen RpfE**<br>Mitra Ashayeripanah, Department of Microbiology, Shahid Beheshti University, Iran; Early Career Researcher | |
| 12:00 | **Multi-Dot/Icm effector deletion mutants reveal distinct host transcriptional responses in *Legionella pneumophila* infected macrophages**<br>Rachelia Raissa Wibawa, Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases (CiiiD), Hudson Institute of Medical Research; Early Career Researcher | |
| 12:03 | **Reprogramming Bacterial Autotransporters: Turning Pathogenesis into Therapeutics**<br>Kaitlin Clarke, La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science (LIMS), Department of Biochemistry and Chemistry, La Trobe University; PhD Student | |
| 12:06 | **Bacterial membrane vesicles promote horizontal gene transfer in *Helicobacter pylori***<br>Christopher McCrory, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Early Career Researcher | |
| 12:09 | **Identification of immunomodulatory proteins in *Helicobacter pylori*-derived extracellular vesicles**<br>Kavitha Wilson Rajaratnam, Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases (CiiiD), Hudson Institute of Medical Research; Honours Student | |

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| 12:12 | **Light-induced circadian rhythm disruption protects the host from *Clostridioides difficile* infection**<br>Desirel Ng, Department of Microbiology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| 12:15 | **AIMing for *Streptococcus pyogenes*-specific memory T cells before and after experimental human challenge**<br>Sabrina Bush, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Research Assistant | |
| 12:18 | **Barbet: A Deep Learning Approach to Bacterial Taxonomic Classification**<br>Wytamma Wirth, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; Early Career Researcher | |
| **12:30 – 13:40** | **Lunch and Poster Session I**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres)<br>**See below for more information** | Cossar Hall |
| **13:40 – 14:20** | **Session 5: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Adaptive and Cellular Immunity**<br>**Chairs: Paul Gill and Dimitra Chatzileontiadou** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 13:40 | **Revealing dose and repeat effects of a novel Influenza vaccine on humoral immunity**<br>Ludivine Grzelak, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Early Career Researcher | |
| 13:50 | **Targeted Depletion of CCR6+ Cells Elicits Robust Therapeutic Effects Across Multiple Autoimmune Diseases**<br>Md Jahangir Alam, Department of Physiology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; Early Career Researcher | |
| 14:00 | **Single-Cell Analysis Reveals the Precise Timing of T Lineage Commitment in the Thymus**<br>Dhruti Parikh, Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne & St Vincent's Institute; PhD Student | |
| 14:10 | **Targeted Regulatory T Cells to Treat Autoimmune Small Vessel Vasculitis**<br>Elean Tay, Department of Medicine, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **14:20 – 14:55** | **Session 6: Science Bites II**<br>**Chairs: Louis Perriman and Natalia Sampaio** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 14:22 | **Immunomodulatory Lipid Nanoparticles to Treat Experimental Glomerulonephritis**<br>Dian Hasanah, Centre for Inflammatory Diseases, Department of Medicine, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| 14:25 | **Harnessing MR1 Antigen Presentation with a Ligand-Restricted Nanobody for Immune Manipulation**<br>Hisham Shakir, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 14:28 | **Suppressing the Suppressors – New Antibody Strategies in Cancer Immunotherapy**<br>Galih Adhyatma, Department of Physiology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student | |

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| 14:31 | **Pre-existing humoral immunity and comorbidity-associated inflammatory signatures shape responses toward seasonal influenza vaccination in Australian First Nations people**<br>Morgan Skinner, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 14:34 | **Influenza A virus drives TLR-dependent inflammatory responses in non-small cell lung cancer**<br>Isabella Rosano, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; Honours Student | |
| 14:37 | **Beta-blockade reshapes the tumour immune landscape to enhance chemotherapy control of triple-negative breast cancer progression**<br>Md Amir Hossain, Drug Discovery Biology, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student | |
| 14:40 | **Selecting β-synuclein epitopes for a targeted regulatory T cell therapy for progressive multiple sclerosis**<br>Grace Osmond, Centre for Inflammatory Diseases, Monash University; Honours Student | |
| 14:43 | **Designing Improved Diagnostic Assays for IBDV Detection in Australia**<br>Jesse Thomas, CSIRO & School of Life and Environmental Sciences, Deakin University; PhD Student | |
| 14:47 | **Development of a rapid point-of-care test for active syphilis**<br>Patrick Bajan, Burnet Diagnostics Initiative, Burnet Institute; Research Assistant | |
| **14:55 – 15:30** | **Session 7: Keynote Speaker – Dr Nancy Wang**<br>**Laboratory Head, Murdoch Children's Research Institute**<br>**Chairs: Isabelle Foo and Kevin Lee** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 14:55 | **From mouse to human: harnessing CD4+ T cell-mediated immunity against *Salmonella***<br>Dr Nancy Wang<br>Ruth Bishop Fellow and Team Leader, Infection, Immunity and Global Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute & Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne & Department of Paediatrics, Melbourne Medical School, University of Melbourne | |
| 15:20 | **Q&A** | |
| **15:30 – 16:10** | **Afternoon Tea**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres) | Cossar Hall |
| **16:10 – 16:40** | **Session 8: Science Bites III**<br>**Chairs: Michelle Chonwerawong and Caroline Soliman** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 16:12 | **Investigation of microbe associated antibody cross-reactivity in SARS-CoV-2 Nucleocapsid immune response**<br>Joshuah Fialho, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; PhD Student | |
| 16:15 | **Bispecific IgG4 display epitope-dependent ability to bind and mediate Fc effector functions against SARS-CoV-2**<br>Carissa Aurelia, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 16:18 | **First molecular insight into HLA-C contribution to COVID-19 outcome**<br>You Min Ahn, Department of Biochemistry and Chemistry, La Trobe University; PhD Student | |

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| 16:21 | **Defining molecular gene profiles that underpin superior antiviral CD8+ T cell immunity in nonagenarians and centenarians**<br>Tejas Menon, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 16:24 | **A High-Dimensional Flow Cytometry Profiling on Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells of Transitioning Transgender Individuals**<br>Den Celestra, Murdoch Children's Research Institute & Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne; Masters Student | |
| 16:27 | **Decoding chronic urinary tract infections: A predictive multi-omic trio of bladder transcriptomics, urinary metabolomics, and the gut microbiome**<br>Theresa Nguyen, Department of Immunology, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| 16:30 | **Altered gastrointestinal permeability and immune profiles in the Shank3B-/- mouse model of autism and modulation by the microbial metabolite-sequestering drug, AB-2004**<br>Vic Lin, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; PhD Student | |
| 16:33 | **Macrophage heterogeneity influences cellular response to HIV infection and latency modulation**<br>Laura Rikard-Bell, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; PhD Student | |
| 16:36 | **Selective viral modulation of IFN-regulated genes to supress antiviral genes while permitting pro-viral gene expression**<br>Alebachew Kebede, Department of Microbiology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **16:40 – 17:20** | **Session 8: Oral Presentations**<br>**Theme: Responses to Infection and Treatment**<br>**Chairs: Ash Rogers and Sarah Ashley** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| 16:40 | **Macrophages play critical roles in MR1 antigen presentation and regulation of MAIT cell immunity against bacteria**<br>Xiaoyue Zhang, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| 16:50 | **Memory B cells and plasmablasts expand following experimental infection with *Streptococcus pyogenes* in humans**<br>Holly Fryer, Department of Immunology, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| 17:00 | **Dynamic Single-Cell Microfluidics Uncovers Heterogeneous Mechanisms of Response to Anti-PD-1 Therapy**<br>Wei-Che Chang, Integrated Photonics and Applications Centre (InPAC), RMIT University; PhD Student | |
| 17:10 | **Pro-apoptotic Agents Reduce Chronic HIV Infection *in vivo***<br>Le Wang, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student | |
| **17:20 – 17:30** | **Thanks and Announcements**<br>**Chairs: Aaron Brice and Stella Liong** | Lecture Theatre 1 |
| **17:30 – 18:45** | **Evening Networking and Poster Session II**<br>(Includes transit time from Lecture Theatres)<br>**See below for more information** | Cossar Hall |
| **18:45 – 19:00** | **Prizes, Acknowledgements and Conclusion**<br>– Including Hartland Oration Prize winner for 2025<br>**Presented by VIIN Co-Convenors:**<br>**Prof Gilda Tachedjian and Prof Richard Ferrero** | Cossar Hall |

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# Poster Session I: 12.30 pm – 1.40 pm

| 12:30 – 13:40 | **Lunch and Poster Session I**<br>(Includes transit time from and to Lecture Theatres)<br>**Poster judging to be finalised by 13:20** | Cossar Hall |
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| **Poster Number** | **Poster Details** | |
| **1** | **Mechanism-based modelling of antibiotic effects on *Pseudomonas* strains with different resistance mechanisms**<br>Alice Terrill, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **2** | **Exploring the hepatoprotective role of glucagon**<br>Ashish Foollee, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **3** | **Exploring a possible role for immune-responsive gene 1 (IRG1) in modulating influenza A virus replication**<br>Shirley Lin, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **4** | **Evaluation of Neglected Tropical Diseases exposure in an urban population cohort in Quito, Ecuador**<br>Belen Prado-Vivar, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research & Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **5** | **Cross-serotypically conserved epitope recommendations for a universal T cell-based dengue vaccine**<br>Syed Faraz Ahmed, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity & Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Melbourne; Early Career Researcher | |
| **6** | **Exploring the natural resistance of juvenile abalone to haliotid herpesvirus (HaHV-1) infection: The role of algae**<br>Jacinta Agius, Department of Microbiology, Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology, La Trobe University; PhD Student | |
| **7** | **Cedar virus and Salt Gully virus are capable of viral mRNA editing during henipavirus infection**<br>Emily Dowling, Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP), CSIRO & Deakin University; PhD Student | |
| **8** | **Exploring SAMHD1 as a cross-species restriction factor against Herpesvirus in cattle and humans**<br>Yongyan Xia, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **9** | **Beyond Storage: Lipid droplets as novel extracellular communicators in flavivirus infection**<br>Irumi Amarasinghe, La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science (LIMS), La Trobe University; PhD Student | |
| **10** | **Transport of Japanese Encephalitis Virus neutralising monoclonal antibodies across the blood-brain barrier**<br>Rachel Evans, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |

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| **11** | **Characterisation of novel bat pararubulavirus identified in Australian *Pteropus* bat urine**<br>Abbey Pay, Health and Biosecurity, CSIRO & Life and Environmental Sciences, Deakin University; Honours Student |
| **12** | **Cancer-related gene expression in bat retrovirus infection**<br>Nancy Wilson, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; Honours Student |
| **13** | **Development of an *ex vivo* airway epithelium model to study bat innate immune responses**<br>Mithun Das, Health and Biosecurity, CSIRO; Early Career Researcher |
| **14** | **Breaking the Barrier: The IL-33-ILC2 axis drives severe urinary tract infections**<br>Ashleigh Paschek, Department of Immunology, Monash University; PhD Student |
| **15** | **Structural basis of biofilm formation by the oral pathogen *Treponema denticola***<br>Bindusmita Paul, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **16** | **Structural and functional characteristics of *Legionella* effectors targeting mitochondria**<br>Brenda (Yee Wa) Lim, School of Chemistry, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **17** | **Subcellular localisation of RNA-binding effectors from *Legionella pneumophila***<br>Daniela Lambrechts, Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases (CiiiD), Hudson Institute of Medical Research & Monash University; Honours Student |
| **18** | **Prior *S. aureus* colonisation impacts future immune responses to invasive *S. aureus* infections**<br>Jessica Braverman, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **19** | **Detection and Characterization of Antimicrobial Resistance Genes in Mothers and Infants During the First Year of Life**<br>Aseel Al-Araji, School of Medicine, Deakin University; PhD Student |
| **20** | **Disruption of mecR impairs MecA-mediated cephamycin resistance in *Clostridioides difficile***<br>Georgia-Rose Gilmore, Department of Microbiology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student |
| **21** | **Simple sequence repeats power *Staphylococcus aureus* adaptation**<br>Ashleigh Hayes, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Research Assistant |
| **22** | **Aztreonam plus ciprofloxacin synergistically kills resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strains**<br>Charlotte Picton, Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student |
| **23** | **Investigating the immunomodulatory and clinical effects of fermentable fibre intervention to reduce symptoms of Long COVID**<br>Joel Jefi Varghese, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Honours Student |
| **24** | **Investigating the impact of diet on invasive fungal infection outcomes**<br>Antara Ghoshal, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student |

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| **25** | **Genetic dissection of *Toxoplasma* differentiation**<br>Amalie Jayawickrama, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student |
| **26** | **Ecological Surveillance of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* (MU) in Urban Possums and Development of a CRISPR-SHERLOCK MU Assay**<br>Pranab Paul, CSIRO & School of Medicine, Deakin University; PhD Student |
| **27** | **Dissecting Host Manipulation by *Cryptosporidium***<br>Lena Chng, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student |
| **28** | **Investigating the role of Kelch-13 during sexual development in *P. falciparum***<br>Sophie Collier, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; Early Career Researcher |
| **-** | **[29 moved to evening poster session]** |
| **30** | **Investigating Antibody Responses to Endothelial Protein C Receptor Binding *Plasmodium falciparum* Erythrocyte Membrane Protein 1 Associated with Severe Malaria in Children**<br>Daniel Getacher Feleke, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **31** | **The Effects of N6 methyladenosine on the Proteome of the Malaria Parasite *Plasmodium falciparum***<br>Lakvin Fernando, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **32** | **Mechanistic insights into repurposed compounds as potential antimalarials**<br>Chris Taylor, Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student |
| **33** | **Predicting the impact of antimalarial resistance in West African parasites**<br>Rachael Yong, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute & School of Medicine, Deakin University; PhD Student |
| **34** | **Impacts of apicoplast-targetting antibiotics on dihydroartemisinin activation in *Plasmodium falciparum***<br>Zoe Tregloan-Dunn, Bio21 Institute, University of Melbourne; Undergraduate Student |
| **35** | **Investigating primary and recall humoral immune responses in malaria and the role of type I interferon signalling**<br>Agustiningsih Agustiningsih, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; PhD Student |
| **36** | **Investigating the role of Kelch 13 protein in *Plasmodium falciparum* gametocytes**<br>Haowen Deng, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **37** | **Investigating the activation of new permeability pathways in *Plasmodium falciparum* infected erythrocytes**<br>Nadine Djunaedi, Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student |
| **38** | **Antibody-dependent activation of NK cells as a potential correlate of protection from placental malaria: Insights from Malawi and PNG cohorts with varying infection status at enrolment**<br>Yvonne Dube, Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |

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| **39** | **Identification of B cell epitopes in serological exposure markers for improved *Plasmodium vivax* surveillance**<br>Hanqing Zhao, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student |
| **40** | **Unfolding malaria parasite biology: targeting protein disulphide isomerases to block *Plasmodium* invasion and transmission**<br>Senna Steen, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute & Monash University; PhD Student |
| **41** | **γδ T cell receptor recognition of CD1d in a lipid-independent manner**<br>Michael Rice, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; Early Career Researcher |
| **42** | **Runx3 acts as a rheostat for CD8+ tissue-resident memory T cell formation in the liver**<br>James Dosser, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **43** | **Exploration of small intestine and colon plasma cell survival heterogeneity**<br>Youngmin Lee, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Honours Student |
| **44** | **Investigating T cell responses to a nested peptide**<br>Georgia Dow, Department of Biochemistry and Chemistry, La Trobe University; PhD Student |
| **45** | **Immune Cell Robbery: Tracking Dendritic Cell-to-B Cell Material Transfer**<br>Laura Almagro, Bio21 Institute & Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **13:25** | **Judging to be finalised** |
| **13:40** | **[Return to main program above]** |

# Poster Session II: 5.30 pm – 6.45 pm

| 17:30 – 18:45 | **Evening Networking and Poster Session II**<br>(Includes transit time from Lecture Theatres)<br>**Poster judging to be finalised by 18:20** | Cossar Hall |
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| **Poster Number** | **Poster Details** | |
| **29** | **Identifying novel antibody biomarkers of Asian-Pacific *Anopheles* vector bite exposure for malaria transmission surveillance**<br>Ashleigh Heng-Chin, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; PhD Student | |
| **46** | **Evaluating cell:cell antiviral protection by *Wolbachia* in *Aedes aegypti* cells**<br>Katrina Ibay, Life Sciences, Burnet Institute; PhD Student | |
| **47** | **Investigating the mechanism of viral control in HIV-infected individuals**<br>Jamie Tuibeo, La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science (LIMS), La Trobe University; PhD Student | |
| **48** | **Understanding viral and host determinants that influence infection outcomes for influenza A virus in human macrophages**<br>Kevin Tang, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **49** | **Differential temporal immune responses to influenza A virus and PRR stimulation in lung epithelial versus macrophage cells**<br>Ameanah El-Hennawi, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; PhD Student | |
| **50** | **Immune profiling of severe and fatal influenza infections in First Nations patients with multimorbidities**<br>Lilith Allen, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **51** | **Defining conserved sites of vulnerability on the Influenza B HA Using Human Monoclonal Antibodies**<br>Yee-Chen Liu, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **52** | **Modelling a microphysiological system to mimic pig lymph nodes**<br>Dijina Swaroop, Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP), CSIRO; Early Career Researcher | |
| **53** | **Lymph node entrapment of CD8+ T cells underlies lymphopenia in severe influenza disease**<br>Aira Cabug, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **54** | **Further insights into asymptomatic outcome after SARS-CoV-2 in HLA-B*15:01+ individuals**<br>Lawton Murdolo, Department of Biochemistry and Chemistry, La Trobe University; PhD Student | |
| **55** | **Selective Endocytosis-mediated Omicron S1-RBD Internalization Revealed by Reconstitution of ACE2-S1-RBD Interaction on Micropatterned Membrane Substrates**<br>Angelin Philip, College of Health and Life Sciences, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar; Early Career Researcher | |

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| **56** | **Preclinical Evaluation of Cytokine-Adjuvanted MVA Vaccines Encoding SARS-CoV-2 Antigens**<br>Wanxiaojie (Jessie) Xie, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Early Career Researcher |
| **57** | **Leveraging RNA-based approaches to develop new therapies and discovery tools to overcome current treatment limitations for HTLV-1**<br>Lena Scherer, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student |
| **58** | **The investigation of the T cell receptor diversity of skin-resident and circulating CD8+ T cells in psoriasis patients**<br>Jingran Ye, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; PhD Student |
| **59** | **Persistent low antigen in chronic infections sustain a potent $CD8^+$ effector T cell response which leads to severe immunopathology**<br>Sining Li, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **60** | **A Novel Targeted Regulatory T Cell Therapy for HLA-DR3-associated Systemic Lupus Erythematosus**<br>Jessica Whui Yuin Wu, School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health, Monash University; PhD Student |
| **61** | **Understanding the Development of Terminally Exhausted T cells**<br>Kwan Ho Leung, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; Masters Student |
| **62** | **γδ T cell-derived IL-4 initiates CD8 T cell immunity**<br>Shirley Le, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **63** | **Ly108 Preserves $CD8^+$ T Cell Fitness Under Chronic Antigen Stimulation**<br>Louis Lee, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **64** | **miRNA expression of bovine CD4+, CD8+ and γδ T cells**<br>Georgia Kennedy, Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP), CSIRO & Charles Sturt University; PhD Student |
| **65** | **Mechanisms of Antigen Presentation and CD8 T cell Priming by mRNA Vaccines**<br>Atefeh Yaftiyan, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **66** | **Crohn's associated invariant T cells recognise small benzofuran-sulfonate molecules with self-lipids on CD1d**<br>Alison White, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **67** | **Harnessing the immunotherapeutic potential of MAIT cells with a novel MAIT TCR nanobody**<br>Ryan Harper, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **68** | **Identification of the skin cells specialised in MR1 antigen presentation to MAIT cells**<br>Atieh Mousavizadeh, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |

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| **69** | **Identification of checkpoint markers, cancer pathways and cancer genes in a mouse model of chronic colitis: Implications for new cancer biomarkers**<br>Ramya Ephraim, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; PhD Student |
| **70** | **Bispecific antibody approach to harness dendritic cells in cancer immunotherapy**<br>Marco Velázquez Delgado, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University; Masters Student |
| **71** | **Loss of expression of the tumour surveillance protein NLRC5 in chief cells undergoing transdifferentiation in *Helicobacter pylori*-associated carcinogenesis**<br>Xiaohu Zhao, Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases (CiiiD), Hudson Institute of Medical Research & Monash University; PhD Student |
| **72** | **Cancer-Microbiome interface: Novel Phage Therapy by Targeting *Fusobacterium nucleatum* in Gastrointestinal Cancer**<br>Birhanu Jemere, Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute (ONJCRI) & La Trobe University; PhD Student |
| **73** | **Sex-specific immune resilience to DSS-induced colitis in the Nlgn3R451C mouse model of autism**<br>Angela Renata Jimenez-Perez, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; PhD Student |
| **74** | **Functional Assessment of the NOD2 Signalling Pathway in Patients with Inborn Errors of Immunity**<br>Ebony Blight, Department of Immunology, Monash University; PhD Student |
| **75** | **Temporal proteomic profiling reveals novel IRAK3 interactors in Toll-like receptor signalling**<br>Cassandra Cianciarulo, Holsworth Biomedical Research Centre, La Trobe University; PhD Student |
| **76** | **The protective effect of breastfeeding on infant inflammation: a mediation analysis of the plasma lipidome and metabolome**<br>Toby Mansell, Inflammatory Origins, Murdoch Children's Research Institute; Early Career Researcher |
| **77** | **Immune Cell Necroptosis Restrains Cutaneous Inflammation: Implications for Therapeutic Targeting**<br>Holly Anderton, Inflammation, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; Early Career Researcher |
| **78** | **Structural Insights into KvrA: A MarR Homologue that Senses and Responds to Copper Stress**<br>Stephanie Penning, La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science (LIMS), La Trobe University; PhD Student |
| **79** | **The *Burkholderia* T6SS-5 and oxidative stress responses during infection**<br>Jiaxing Yang, Hudson Institute of Medical Research & Department of Molecular and Translational Science, Monash University; PhD Student |
| **80** | **Investigating the role of O-GlcNAcylation in regulating Dendritic cell maturation**<br>Bjorn Wee, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Melbourne; PhD Student |
| **81** | **Role of Ubiquitination in *Toxoplasma* Differentiation**<br>Karan Singh, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student |

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| **82** | **Understanding metabolic sensing during *Toxoplasma* differentiation**<br>Amber Simonpietri, Infection and Global Health, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research; PhD Student | |
| **83** | **Mapping protein complexes to reveal new functions in the malaria parasite**<br>Zhaochun Li, Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **84** | **Characterising monoclonal antibodies to placental malaria antigen, VAR2CSA**<br>Vivin Kokuhennadige, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **85** | **Cross-reactive Immunity to VAR2CSA Antigen in Placental Malaria**<br>Pragya Kumar, Department of Medicine at Royal Melbourne Hospital, University of Melbourne; Masters Student | |
| **86** | **Uncovering the mechanism of action of second generation bis-triazines, a potent new class of antimalarials**<br>Jennifer Le, Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **87** | **Improving the capacity of vaccine-induced antibodies to arrest the growth of *Plasmodium falciparum***<br>Alysha Literski, Burnet Institute & School of Translational Medicine, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **88** | **Antibody-dependent neutrophil phagocytosis of *Plasmodium falciparum* infected erythrocytes is mediated by FcγRIIa**<br>Maria Saeed, Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Melbourne; PhD Student | |
| **89** | **Metabolic Tracing in *P. falciparum* Using a Stable Isotope Labelling Strategy**<br>Junwei Tang, Drug Delivery, Disposition and Dynamics, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **90** | **Hydrogel Loaded with Endometrial Mesenchymal Stem Cells Alleviates Birth Injury in a Sheep Model**<br>Ayenew Abawa, Hudson Institute of Medical Research & Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Monash University; PhD Student | |
| **18:20** | **Judging to be finalised** | |
| **18:45 – 19:00** | **Prizes, Acknowledgements and Conclusion**<br>**Presented by VIIN Co-Convenors:**<br>**Prof Gilda Tachedjian and Prof Richard Ferrero** | Cossar Hall |