

## VIIN Young Investigator Symposium

October 18, 2012 - Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Parkville



Keynote Speaker: Professor Scott O'Neill  
Dean of Science, Monash University

*Using Wolbachia infections to control dengue transmission*

For more details visit: <http://viin.org.au/events/52/>

Lorne Infection & Immunity  
Conference 2013  
Australia

20-22 February  
Mantra Erskine



Confirmed International Speakers:

**Gordon Dougan**, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, UK

**Jianqing Xu**, Fudan University, China

**Victor Nizet**, UCSD School of Medicine, USA

**Richard Flavell**, Yale School of Medicine, USA

[www.lorneinfectionimmunity.org](http://www.lorneinfectionimmunity.org)

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## Lorne Infection and Immunity Conference 2012



The 2nd Annual Lorne Infection and Immunity Conference was held this February at Mantra Erskine, with over 200 local and international delegates in attendance. Pictured left are Brendan Crabb (Director of the Burnet Institute), Christian Doerig (invited speaker and Head of the Department of Microbiology, Monash University) and [Diana Hansen](#) (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute and VIIN Executive Committee Member).

Conference highlights included the high calibre of international speakers, Ian Henderson (University of Birmingham) and Vanessa Sperandio (UT Southwestern Medical Center) are pictured to the right. Below are [Johnson Mak](#) (Deakin University and VIIN Executive Committee Member), invited speaker Alexander Khromykh (University of Queensland) and [Paul Hertzog](#) (Monash Institute of Medical Research and VIIN Co-convenor).



**Student prize winners:** The quality of student presentations was excellent. Prizes for best poster presentations went to Jana McCaskill (Diamantina Institute), Yu-Chih Liu (Monash University) and Jhih-Hang Jiang (Monash University and University of Melbourne).

Thank you to all presenters, session chairs, prize judges and sponsors.



Congratulations to [Jian Li](#), Tony Velkov, [Roger Nation](#), Philip Thompson and Kade Roberts from Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences for securing NIH funding to develop new antibiotics to combat emerging resistance. The A\$4.48 million grant will allow the MIPS researchers along with Rempex Pharmaceuticals (California) to pursue drug candidates with a view to develop at least one for future clinical trials. [More on this story.](#)

## Infection and Immunity Funding Opportunities

### **Partnerships for Interventions to Treat Chronic, Persistent and Latent Infections**

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) invites applications for basic and early-stage translational research focused on development of novel intervention strategies to clear persistent, chronic or latent infectious agents from the host. Responsive applications will define and address a therapeutic need specific to a targeted pathogen. This program will use the NIH R21/R33 Phased Innovation Award grant mechanism.

Deadline: Applications may be submitted to Grants.gov in response to this announcement on or after June 13, 2012. The deadline for receipt of optional letters of intent is June 13, 2012.

The deadline for receipt of full applications is July 13, 2012, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-12-020.html>

### **Biomarkers of Infection-Associated Cancers**

National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS

The sponsor offers support for research proposals focused on identifying protein biomarkers for cancers where etiology of the disease is attributed to infectious agents. This program will use the NIH Exploratory/Developmental (R21) grant mechanism.

Deadline: The deadlines for receipt of standard R01 applications under this announcement are: February 16, June 16, and October 16 annually. The deadlines for receipt of AIDS-related applications are: January 7, May 7, and September 7 annually. This program will expire on May 8, 2014.

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-159.html>

### **Albert Baikie Memorial Medal**

Haematology Society of Australia & New Zealand

The sponsor provides an award to recognise the best oral presentation at the sponsor's Annual Scientific Meeting by a new investigator who is a financial member of the sponsor's Society.

The winner receives a \$3,000 prize and is presented with the Baikie Memorial Medal.

Deadline: 02/07/2012

<http://www.hsanz.org.au/resources/grants.cfm#baikie>

### **Multiple ASM Awards**

American Society for Microbiology

The ASM Awards, overseen by the American Academy of Microbiology, encompass the many subspecialties of microbiology, including biotechnology, clinical microbiology, environmental microbiology, antimicrobial chemotherapy, immunology, and virology, as well as education and service to the profession.

Deadline: 01/07/2012

<http://www.asm.org/index.php/awards-grants/awards-main.html>



## NHMRC Funding for Hendra Virus Research

Victorian infection and immunity researchers received a large slice of the \$3 million NHMRC funding recently announced for urgent Hendra virus research:

### **Understanding pathogenicity and immunity in an encephalitic mouse model of Hendra virus infection**

[John Stambas](#) (Deakin University), [Paul Hertzog](#) (Monash University), Carola Vinuesa (ANU), Deborah Middleton and Linfa Wang (CSIRO-AAHL)

Funding amount: \$562,350

### **Can the bat immune response to Hendra inform drug and vaccine development in other species?**

Anthony Purcell (Monash University), Linfa Wang (CSIRO-AAHL), [Jamie Rossjohn](#) (Monash University), Michelle Baker (CSIRO-AAHL)

Funding amount: \$637,020

### **Identification of viral-cellular interacting factors for an in-depth understanding of the Hendra virus life cycle and pathogenesis**

[Hans Netter](#) (Monash University)

Funding amount: \$368,510

### **New Hendra virus treatments**

Nigel McMillan (Griffith University), Tim Doran and Mark Tizard (CSIRO-AAHL)

Funding amount: \$197,450

### **Safety assessment of an anti-Hendra virus antibody in humans**

Geoffrey Playford (University of Queensland), Deborah Middleton (CSIRO-AAHL), Peter Gray, Stephen Mahler and Trent Munro (University of Queensland), Christopher Broder (University of Florida, USA)

Funding amount: \$400,000

### **Hendra virus vaccine**

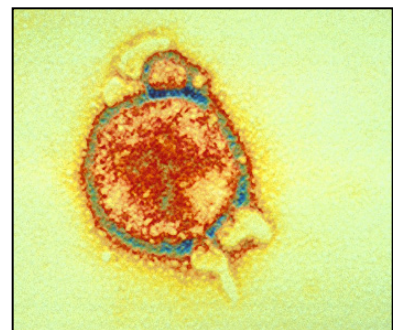
[Geoffrey Pietersz](#) (Burnet Institute)

Funding amount: \$189,917

### **Structural studies of Hendra virus replication**

[Fasseli Coulibaly](#) (Monash University)

Funding amount: \$301,175



### **Defining the role of microRNAs in human Hendra virus infections**

Cameron Stewart, Glenn Marsh, Linfa Wang and Deborah Middleton (CSIRO-AAHL), Kaylene Simpson (University of Melbourne), [Michael Gantier](#) (Monash University), [Andrew Bean](#) (CSIRO-AAHL), Ralph Tripp (University of Georgia, USA)

Funding amount: \$346,064

For the NHMRC Media Release visit:

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/media/releases/2012/funding-tackle-human-health-effects-hendra-virus>