



QIMR Berghofer 80th Anniversary Scientific Conference

Wednesday 17th September 2025

Program

| Time | Details |
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| 8:30am | Welcome and introduction Professor Fabienne Mackay Director and CEO, QIMR Berghofer |
| 8:35am | Welcome to Country Refiti Tovi, Turrbal Dipil |
| 8:45am | Official opening Dr David Rosengren, Director-General, Queensland Health |
| 8:50am | Infectious diseases Chair – Professor Christian Engwerda, Program Director Infection & Inflammation |
| | From discovery to therapy: QIMR Berghofer pioneering contributions to viral immunology and immunotherapy Professor Rajiv Khanna, Distinguished Scientist & Coordinator, Centre for Immunotherapy and Vaccine Development |
| | Human malaria infection studies at QIMR Berghofer: carrying forward the legacy Associate Professor Bridget Barber, Group Leader, Clinical Malaria |
| 9:30am | Tropical health Chair – Professor Darren Gray, Program Director, Population Health |
| | From molecules to community impact: 20+ years of scabies research at QIMR Berghofer Associate Professor Katja Fischer, Senior Group Leader, Scabies Research |
| | Parasites, progress, and public health: a legacy of worm research at QIMR Berghofer Dr Catherine Gordon, Team Head, Applied Tropical and Molecular Parasitology Laboratory |
| 10:20am | Morning tea |
| 10:45am | Cancer Chair – Professor Juliet French, Program Director, Cancer Research |
| | Cancer as a genetic disease: 80 years of research at QIMR Berghofer Professor Georgia Chenevix-Trench, Distinguished Scientist, Cancer Genetics |
| | Blood cancer research at QIMR Berghofer - making a difference through research Professor Steven Lane, Group Leader, Leukaemia Research Laboratory |

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| 11:30am | Sun and health Chair – Professor Nick Hayward, Distinguished Scientist, Oncogenomics |
| | QIMR Berghofer: a global leader in skin cancer research Professor David Whiteman, Distinguished Scientist, Cancer Control Group |
| | Balancing the harms and benefits of sun exposure: from discovery to translation Professor Rachel Neale, Senior Group Leader, Cancer Aetiology and Prevention |
| 12:15pm | Lunch |
| 1:00pm | Genetics Chair – Professor Nick Martin, Distinguished Scientist, Genetic Epidemiology |
| | From variance to variants: moving from nature vs nurture to finding the genes Professor Sarah Medland, Distinguished Scientist, Psychiatric Genetics Group |
| | Clinical translation of genetic results in mental health Professor Eske Derks, Senior Group Leader, Translational Neurogenomics Laboratory |
| 1:45pm | Future focus ① Chair – Dr Nic Waddell, Senior Group Leader, Medical Genomics |
| | Electronic Archaeology John Pearson, Bioinformatics Manager, Genome Informatics Group |
| | Brain mapping, monitoring, and modelling Associate Professor James Roberts, Group Leader, Brain Modelling Group |
| 2:30pm | Afternoon tea |
| 3:00pm | Future focus ② Transformations in technologies have led to transformations in understanding Chair – Professor James Hudson, Senior Group Leader, Cardiac Bioengineering |
| | From microscope to machine learning: how spatial-omics & AI are transforming pathology Albert Xiong, Laboratory Manager, Genomics and Machine Learning |
| | Human heart tissue in a dish for understanding and treating heart disease Janice Reid, Research Officer, Cardiac Bioengineering |
| 3:45pm | Registration opens – Derrick Mackerras Memorial Lecture |
| 4:00pm | Derrick Mackerras Memorial Lecture Welcome – Professor Fabienne Mackay, Director and CEO, QIMR Berghofer |
| 4:10pm | Keynote address: Melanoma as our blueprint: weaving research into the DNA of clinical care Professor Georgina Long AO, Medical Director, Melanoma Institute Australia |
| 4:40pm | Audience Q&A |
| 5:00pm | Networking reception |
| 6:30pm | Event close |