



the women's  
the royal women's hospital

## SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Professor Frank Bloomfield  
Professor Emeritus Brian Darlow  
Associate Professor Kate Groom  
Professor John Newnham  
Professor Ju-Lee Oei

THE ROYAL WOMEN'S HOSPITAL PRESENTS

# COOL TOPICS IN *neonatology*

THURSDAY 19 AND  
FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2020

**JOIN US ONLINE**

TICKETS AVAILABLE:  
[THEWOMENS.ORG.AU/COOLTOPICS](https://thewomens.org.au/cooltopics)



## THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2020

TIME	SPEAKER	TITLE
1000–1200	<b>Professor Peter Davis (Chairperson)</b>	<b>Welcome – morning session</b>
1005–1035	Professor John Newnham	New strategies to safely prevent preterm birth
1035–1105	A/Professor Katie Groom	What obstetricians and midwives can do to improve outcomes for very preterm infants
1105–1130	Dr Abbey Eeles	Consumer research priorities in newborn medicine: a Delphi study
1130–1200		Discussion
<b>1400–1600</b>	<b>A/Professor Louise Owen (Chairperson)</b>	<b>Welcome – afternoon session</b>
1400–1430	Professor Frank Bloomfield	Variation in nutrition of the ELBW baby and associations with growth, metabolic and clinical outcomes
1430–1500	Dr Friederike Beker	The effect of smell and taste of milk during tube feeding of preterm infants (the TASTE trial)
1500–1530	Professor Brian Darlow	Retinopathy of prematurity: lessons from history and recent developments
1530–1600		Discussion

## FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2020

TIME	SPEAKER	TITLE
1000–1200	<b>Professor Lex Doyle (Chairperson)</b>	<b>Welcome – morning session</b>
1000–1030	Professor Brian Darlow	Adult outcomes following extremely preterm birth: the NZ experience
1030–1100	Professor Jeanie Cheong	Adult outcomes following extremely preterm birth: the Victorian experience
1100–1130	Professor Ju-Lee Oei	Long term consequences of prenatal drug exposure
1130–1200		Discussion
1400–1600	<b>A/Professor Brett Manley (Chairperson)</b>	<b>Welcome – afternoon session</b>
1400–1430	A/Professor Katie Groom	Late preterm and term corticosteroids, more benefit than harm?
1430–1500	Professor Peter Anderson and Dr Karli Treyvaud	The mental health of parents following very preterm birth – consequences and clinical implications
1500–1530	Professor John Newnham	The Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance
1530–1600		Discussion



## PROFESSOR PETER ANDERSON

Peter is Professor of Paediatric Neuropsychology in the Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health, School of Psychological Sciences at Monash University. He is the Lead of the Neurodevelopment Research Program at the

Turner Institute, Group Leader of the Victorian Infant Brain Studies (VIBeS) team based at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Adjunct Scientist at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He is the Founder and Chair of the Australian Paediatric Neuropsychology Research Network, on the Executive of the NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Newborn Medicine (2009–2023) and a member of the follow-up subcommittee of the Australian and New Zealand Neonatal Network (ANZNN).

Professor Anderson is currently a NHMRC Leadership Fellow (2020–2024), and prior to that was a NHMRC Senior Research Fellow (2010–2019), University of Melbourne CR Roper Fellow (2008–2010) and NHMRC Training Fellow (2004–2007). He has published in excess of 300 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, predominantly in leading medical, paediatric, neuroscience and psychology journals. Professor Anderson has supervised 33 PhD/DPsych students to completion and mentored 22 post-doctoral fellows.

Professor Anderson's research focuses on understanding brain and cognitive development following early brain insults, and for the past 20 years his program has centered on neonatal conditions, especially infants born very preterm. His research is internationally known for integrating neuroimaging in prospective longitudinal studies of sick neonates. Professor Anderson has studied parental mental health following the birth of a very preterm infant, and the impact this has on parenting and child development. He is also heavily involved in large longitudinal observational studies, designing and evaluating the benefits of early intervention and cognitive training programs, and assessing the long-term consequences of perinatal interventions.



## PROFESSOR FRANK BLOOMFIELD

Frank is Professor of Neonatology and Director of the Liggins Institute at the University of Auckland. He trained in Manchester, Auckland

and Toronto. Professor Bloomfield has previously been President of the Perinatal Society of New Zealand and the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand and has had roles on national maternity and perinatal committees. He is involved in a wide range of research, from basic experimental studies to clinical trials in neonatal nutrition and metabolism.



## DR FRIEDERIKE BEKER

Freddy is the Betty McGrath Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer at the Mater Research Institute and Neonatologist at Mater Mothers' Hospital in Brisbane, Queensland.

Dr Beker's research focuses on the effect of smell and taste of milk on nutrition in preterm infants. She did the smell and taste pilot trial at the Mercy Hospital for Women in Melbourne and conducted the main TASTE trial in collaboration with the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne. Dr Beker completed neonatal training in Adelaide and Melbourne and she maintains broad research interests around early nutritional learning, neonatal cardiovascular function, high frequency ventilation and intracellular calcium regulation.



## PROFESSOR JEANIE CHEONG

Jeanie is a consultant neonatologist at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne, Principal Research Fellow at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, and Honorary Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne. Professor Cheong took over

leadership of the Victorian Infant Collaborative Study group, the longest running epidemiological preterm baby study in the world, in 2014 from Professor Lex Doyle. Her interests are the long term health and development of high-risk newborns, especially those born preterm.



PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
BRIAN DARLOW

Brian Darlow is Professor Emeritus in Paediatrics at the University of Otago, Christchurch. He was born in London, UK and graduated from Cambridge University, where he undertook an initial degree in basic sciences before completing his medical degree in 1973. His post-graduate training included spells in the UK and New Zealand, with a year in Papua New Guinea working on malaria research. He returned to Christchurch as a Senior Lecturer in Paediatrics in 1982. He was appointed Professor and Head of the University Department of Paediatrics in 2000 and held the Cure Kids Chair of Paediatric Research from 2007 to 2017. His clinical work has been predominantly as a neonatologist and his main research interests have focussed on free-radical disease in the newborn including bronchopulmonary dysplasia and retinopathy or prematurity (ROP), neonatal networking and unit variations in outcome, and longer term outcome following preterm birth including the longitudinal NZ 1986 VLBW Study.

He is the author of over 250 original publications. Brian was a member of the Australia and New Zealand Neonatal Network (ANZNN) Executive from its foundation in 1994 and was Chair of the Management Committee from 2008-12. From 2007 he has regularly contributed to workshops aimed at improving care of the newborn and the prevention and treatment of ROP in developing and middle-income countries in Latin America and Asia under WHO Vision 2020 objectives.



DR ABBEY EELES

Abbey is an occupational therapist who has specialised in paediatrics and neonatal developmental therapy, both in a clinical and research sphere. She completed her PhD at the University of Melbourne in 2012, investigating the consequences of the preterm infant's exposure to a sensory environment that is mismatched with their early sensory system maturation.

Dr Eeles has specialised training in the neurobehavioural and neurological assessment of premature and high-risk infants during the neonatal period and across early childhood and is an experienced educator on family-centered developmentally supportive care.

She is the principal investigator on multiple clinical studies and quality improvement projects that explore the parental experience of newborn care and the neonatal nurses perspective on fostering collaborative working relationships with parents in the neonatal unit. Dr Eeles is versed in implementation science methodology and is a Knowledge Translation Fellow for the Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) in Newborn Medicine at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. She is passionate about understanding the impact of developmental therapy and early intervention on brain development and rehabilitation in the newborn period and beyond, and the important role parents play in delivering this intervention.



## ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KATIE GROOM

Katie Groom is Associate Professor of Maternal and Perinatal Health and Hugo Charitable Trust Fellow at the Liggins Institute, University of Auckland. She is a Subspecialist in Maternal and Fetal Medicine at National Women's Health, Auckland

City Hospital.

Her PhD studies at Imperial College London in 2000-2003 explored a potential therapy for the prevention of preterm birth. At this time she led the development of a Preterm Birth Clinic at Queen Charlotte's Hospital. She has continued to have a strong interest in the care of women at high risk of preterm birth. She is the Clinical Lead for Preterm Birth Services at National Women's Health and provides regional and national advice.

She was a member of the Advisory Group for the NZ Newborn Clinical Network national consensus statement on the care of mother and baby(ies) at peri-viable gestations and is currently leading a project to develop a national action plan for preterm birth.

Katie is the Principal Investigator of the HRC-funded C\*STEROID Trial exploring the effect of corticosteroids on newborn health when given before planned caesarean section at 35+0 to 39+6 weeks gestation. She was a member of the Advisory Group for the 2015 bi-national 'Antenatal corticosteroids given to women prior to birth to improve fetal, infant, child and adult health: clinical practice guidelines'.



## PROFESSOR JOHN NEWNHAM

John Newnham is a Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) Specialist at King Edward Memorial Hospital, Perth Western Australia; Head

of the University of Western Australia (UWA) Division of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; and Chief Scientific Director of the Women and Infants Research Foundation, which all work together to improve the health of women and babies.

His career-long passion has been to investigate the role of events before birth in life-long health and disease and to discover how to safely reduce the rate of preterm birth. In 1989 he initiated a lifetime cohort study of nearly 3000 Western Australian unborn babies to investigate the role of early life events in subsequent health and wellbeing. Known as the Raine Study, the project now includes four generations in each family, has resulted in more than 500 scientific publications, includes more than 30,000 pieces of information on each participant, and looks forward to hosting the 31 year birthday party next year.

In 2014, John initiated the WA Preterm Birth Prevention Initiative, which was the culmination of two decades of clinical research conducted in WA and elsewhere. Following early success of the Initiative he and the team were awarded an NHMRC Partnership Grant (April 2018) enabling development of the Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance, which is the world's first national program aiming to safely reduce the rate of harmful early birth across its population. The WA and national programs involve extensive outreach education and an active social media campaign known as The Whole Nine Months. These programs are whole-of-population and whole-of-geographic regions.

John was awarded an Order of Australia in 2013; the AMA WA Hippocrates Award in 2019; and is now the 2020 Senior Australian of the Year.



**PROFESSOR JU-LEE OEI**

Ju-Lee Oei is a Neonatologist at the Royal Hospital for Women (NSW), Visiting Medical Officer in Addiction Medicine in Murrumbidgee Local Health District, NSW and Conjoint Professor in Paediatrics at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

Professor Oei's areas of research interest are in neonatal resuscitation and in perinatal drug use. She has an active interest in student supervision and has supervised research projects for more than 70 undergraduate and post graduate students.



**DR KARLI  
TREYVAUD**

Karli is a clinical psychologist and senior lecturer at La Trobe University in Melbourne. She is an honorary member of the Newborn Research team at the Royal Women's Hospital, and an honorary Research Fellow with the VIBeS team at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

Dr Treyvaud sits on the Policy & Practice Translation Subcommittee of the Centre for Research Excellence in Newborn Medicine. Her research is focused on understanding and improving the parent-child relationship and developmental and mental health outcomes for children and parents after premature birth or neonatal illness.