

Otago Spotlight Series Infectious Disease Research

Tuesday 11 September, 2018 Nordmeyer Lecture Theatre University of Otago, Wellington

Welcome

Tēnā koutou kātoa. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the Otago Spotlight Symposium on Infectious Disease. This is the fourth spotlight event at which we are showcasing the research strengths in the Division of Health Sciences at the University of Otago.

The Division's ground-breaking research underpins many advances in health policy and practice and the understanding of health and disease, both in New Zealand, and globally. Our researchers are at the forefront of infectious disease research in New Zealand. We have expertise in the fields of viral and bacterial genetics, parasitology, virology, vaccines and new therapies, antimicrobial resistance, infectious disease prevention and control, global health, epidemiology and public health as well as agricultural and environmental links to human health. We have a major focus on health inequalities and Māori and Pacific health, and are dedicated to undertaking research relevant to New Zealand's unique population groups.

We play a key role in One Health Aotearoa - an alliance of New Zealand's leading infectious diseases researchers committed to working together to address important health hazards in New Zealand, and beyond. The Division also houses the Webster Centre for Infectious Diseases, the Health, Environment and Infection Research Unit, the Otago Global Health Institute and the Centre for International Health. These centres work to understand, prevent, and control infectious diseases both in New Zealand and in under-resourced countries. Approaches extend from the molecular, to the clinical and on to public health and policy initiatives. You will hear from a number of researchers involved in these centres today.

Reducing the threat and burden from infectious disease is a key priority for New Zealand. This can only be achieved by engaging with stakeholders and communities, undertaking relevant world-class research, and translating research findings into innovative policy, practice and technologies.

Today, stakeholders will have the chance to meet with researchers and to discuss the future of infectious disease research in New Zealand, and internationally. We would value your input on what you see as key needs and priorities.

I am sure you will be inspired by the day's presenters and I encourage you to keep in touch. I would like to thank you all for attending and I look forward to welcoming many of you back next year.



Professor Paul Brunton PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Infectious Disease Research at Otago: Setting the Scene

Infectious disease remains a major cause of illness and death globally despite the increasing availability of effective prevention and treatment measures. In a high income country like New Zealand, infectious disease is the main cause of acute hospitalisations and is therefore an important driver of health care costs. These diseases also cause high levels of health inequalities, with consistently higher rates in Māori and Pacific peoples. Rheumatic fever is the most extreme example, with rates that are 40-80 times higher in Māori and Pacific children compared with European children.

The treat posed by infectious disease is distinct in that it is constantly changing and will continue to surprise us. New agents like the SARS virus may cross from other species and cause a human pandemic. Other agents like Zika virus may become more transmissible to humans and cause new patterns of illness. Sometimes it is a combination of environmental events and infrastructure issues that cause a major outbreak, as occurred in the Havelock North campylobacter outbreak.

Another major threat is antimicrobial resistance (AMR). AMR is a rapidly evolving global emergency that threatens many of the achievements of modern medicine. AMR pathogens kill an estimated 700,000 people per year and if left unchecked threaten to reduce the global GDP by 2-3.5% by the year 2050 at a cost of \$USD100 trillion. The good news is that decades of research have given humanity many tools to prevent and manage infectious diseases effectively. Continuing this commitment to high quality research is particularly important given the evolving nature of microbes. Translating this knowledge into effective programes is also vital, particularly to ensure they reach those living in relative poverty and in low-income countries.

Otago has a unique and distinguished collection of world-leading researchers working to combat infectious disease. Many of our biomedical researchers are focused on AMR in bacteria, viruses, malaria and fungi. At the forefront of this research is the use of molecular approaches to combat AMR including microbial genomics, molecular diagnostics, vaccine and drug development. We also have significant expertise in international health, epidemiology, public health and health inequalities. The work undertaken in these domains informs policy and practice.

We are delighted to share our world-class research with you today, particularly that from our young and emerging researchers who will be the future leaders in the fight to ease the burden of infectious disease within New Zealand, and beyond.



Professor Michael Baker PUBLIC HEALTH UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO, WELLINGTON



Professor Greg Cook
MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Programme

9.00-9.15 am Mihi

Session One	: Chair - Professor Richard Cannon (Dentistry)				
9.15-9.45	Professor Michael Baker (Public Health, UOW) Rheumatic fever - How can we end this terrible disease of poverty?				
9.45-10.05	Associate Professor Bruce Russell (Microbiology and Immunology) Parasite threats to New Zealand: Far, near and future				
10.05-10.25	Associate Professor Catherine Stedman (Medicine, UOC) Hepatitis C: Time for elimination?				
10.25-11.00	Morning Tea				
Session Two	: Chair - Dr Jacqui Keenan (Surgery, UOC)				
11.00-11.20	Dr James Ussher (Microbiology and Immunology) New technologies for diagnostics				
11.20-11.40	Professor Kurt Krause (Biochemistry) New anti-microbial development based on targeting the enzyme, glutamate racemase				
11.40-12.00	Dr Jo Kirman (Microbiology and Immunology) Deciphering the protective immune response to Tuberculosis				
12.00-12.20	Students present their research				
12.20-1.20	Lunch				
Session Thre	e: Chair - Professor Vernon Ward (Microbiology and Immunology)				
Session Thre 1.20-1.50	Professor Vernon Ward (Microbiology and Immunology) Professor Greg Cook (Microbiology and Immunology) Opportunities for Infectious Disease Research in New Zealand: a Biomedical Perspective				
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Entries for the Student Poster Competition

POSTER NUMBER	TITLE, AUTHOR, DEPARTMENT			
1	REASONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH COMMUNITY ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA CLINICAL GUIDELINES Serin Cooper Maidlow, Michael Ardagh			
	Department of Surgery, University of Otago, Christchurch and Canterbury District Health Board			
2	STRUCTURAL CHARACTERIZATION OF THE ARCHETYPAL FUNGAL EFFLUX PUMP CANDIDA ALBICANS Cdr1			
	Golnoush Madani, Erwin Lamping, Richard Cannon			
	Sir John Walsh Research Institute, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Otago			
3	UNDERSTANDING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN NEW ZEALAND			
	Sarah Mitchell, Alex Macmillan, Patricia Priest, Kate Morgaine			
	Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago			
4	STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS SURVIVAL INSIDE THE NEUTROPHIL PHAGOSOME			
	Reuben Springer, Louisa Ashby, Anthony Kettle, Christine Winterbourn, Mark Hampton Centre for Free Radical Research, Department of Pathology and Biomedical Science, University of Otago, Christchurch			
5	NEXT GENERATION INHIBITORS TO COMBAT DRUG RESISTANT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTIONS Zoe Williams¹, Xiaoyun Li², Ke Ding²₃, Gregory Cook¹.⁴			
	¹ Department of Microbiology and Immunology, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Otago; ² School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Jinan University, Guangzhou, China; ³ Chinese Academy of Sciences, China; ⁴ Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery, University of Auckland			
6	STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE ADHERED TO NEUTROPHIL EXTRACELLULAR TRAPS PRODUCE HYDROGEN PEROXIDE WHICH IS CONVERTED INTO HYPOCHLOROUS ACID			
	Christopher Kaldor ¹ , Heather Parker ¹ , Gregory Cook ² , Mark Hampton ¹			
	¹ Centre for Free Radical Research, Department of Pathology, University of Otago Christchurch; ² Department o Microbiology and Immunology, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Otago			
7	INTERACTIONS BETWEEN NEW AZOLE DRUGS AND THEIR TARGET ENZYME			
	Yasmeen Ruma¹, Mikhail Keniya¹, Alia Sagatova¹, Joel Tyndall², Brian Monk¹			
	¹ Sir John Walsh Research Institute, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Otago; ² School of Pharmacy, University of Otago			
8	ASPIRIN'S ROLE IN PREVENTING E-CADHERIN CLEAVAGE BY THE CARCINOGENIC BACTEROIDES FRAGILIS TOXIN.			
	James Swan¹, Alan Aitchison¹, Mark Hampton², Jacqueline Keenan¹			
	¹ Departments of Surgery and ² Pathology and Biomedical Science, University of Otago, Christchurch			
9	INVESTIGATING THE ROLE OF LANGERHANS CELLS DURING WOUND HEALING			
	Aarthi Rajesh¹, Nicola Jones², Gabriella Stuart², Heather Cunliffe¹, Lyn Wise², Merilyn Hibma¹			
	¹ Department of Pathology, Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago;			
	² Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Otago			

POSTER NUMBER	TITLE, AUTHOR, DEPARTMENT
10	BCG IMMUNISATION ALTERS LUNG PHAGOCYTE DYNAMICS DURING EARLY MYCOBACTERIAL INFECTION OF MICE. Brin Ryder¹, Siouxsie Wiles², Joanna Kirman¹ ¹Department of Microbiology and Immunology, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Otago; ²Bioluminescent Superbugs Lab, Department of Molecular Medicine and Pathology, University of Auckland
11	MECHANISMS OF HPV SUPPRESSION OF ANTIGEN PRESENTING CELLS Indumati Sharma¹, Michelle Wilson¹, Betina Nair¹, Greg Giminez¹, Francis Hunter², Sarah Young¹, Merilyn Hibma¹ ¹Department of Pathology, Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago; ²Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Auckland
12	CHARACTERISING THE IMMUNOMODULATORY PROTEIN; GIF, ENCODED BY ORF VIRUS Theodore Keats, Michele Krause, Kurt Krause Department of Biochemistry, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Otago
13	THE EFFECTS OF LARGE DELETIONS ON <i>PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA</i> Priyal Dass, Sam Taylor-Wardell, Iain Lamont Department of Biochemisty, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Otago
14	EVALUATING A CAUSAL ROLE OF MITOCHONDRIAL VARIATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOUT Amara Shaukat ¹ , Anna Gosling ¹ , Matthew Bixley ¹ , Amanda Phipps-Green ¹ , Tanya Major ¹ , Murray Cadzow ¹ , Nicola Dalbeth ² , Lisa Stamp ¹ , Elizabeth Matisoo-Smith ¹ , Jennie Harre Hindmarsh ³ , Leo

Philip Riches⁷, Alexander So⁸, Mariano Andres⁹, Geraldine M. McCarthy¹⁰, Fernando Perez-Ruiz¹¹, Michael

¹University of Otago; ²University of Auckland; ³Ngati Porou Hauora Charitable Trust; ⁴Radboud University Medical Center; ⁵VieCuri Medical Center; ⁶Universitätsklinikum Carl Gustav Carus an der Technischen Universität Dresden; ⁷University of Edinburgh; ⁸University of Lausanne; ⁹Hospital General Universitario de Alicante-ISABIAL; ¹⁰Mater Misericordiae University Hospital; ¹¹BioCruces Health Research Institute; ¹²The University of Nottingham; ¹³La Paz University Hospital; ¹⁴Department of Rheumatology, LUMC; ¹⁵Brigham and Women's Hospital; ¹⁶Leiden

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