

# Healthy Development Adelaide

A Research & Innovation Cluster in South Australia



## Vaccination

*more than just a shot in the arm*



**Date:** Thursday 28 May 2009

**Time:** 4.30 - 7.00pm

**Venue:** Union House (Level 4, Eclipse Room)  
University of Adelaide  
(North Terrace campus)

*Registration 4.15pm for 4.30pm start*

*Food & drink provided after conclusion of talks*

*All Welcome - Free admission*

**RSVP by Friday 22 May**

✉ [anne.jurisevic@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:anne.jurisevic@adelaide.edu.au)

☎ (08) 8303 8222

*This event supported by*



### SPEAKERS

**Professor James Paton**

**Pathogenesis and prevention of pneumococcal disease**

Director: Research Centre for Infectious Diseases, University of Adelaide

**Professor Geoffrey Davidson**

**The rotavirus story - from discovery to oblivion**

Senior Gastroenterologist: Centre for Paediatric and Adolescent Gastroenterology, Women's and Children's Hospital

**Professor Eric Gowans**

**Problems in HIV and HCV vaccine design**

Executive Director: Women's and Children's Health Research Institute

**Dr Helen Marshall**

**Vaccination trends for Australian children and adolescents**

Director: Paediatric Trials Unit, Women's and Children's Hospital

### CHAIR

**A/Professor Claire Roberts**

Research Centre for Reproductive Health, Robinson Institute, University of Adelaide

## Speaker Profiles



**Professor James Paton** is a NHMRC Australia Fellow, Professor of Microbiology in the School of Molecular and Biomedical Science, and Director of the new Research Centre for Infectious Diseases at the University of Adelaide. He leads a large research team, studying the molecular interactions between pathogenic bacteria and their hosts. The results of this research are being applied to development of more effective vaccines and novel therapeutic strategies. He and his colleagues were recently awarded a NHMRC Program Grant worth \$9.1 million to help combat pneumonia, meningitis, gastroenteritis and other bacterial infectious diseases, which collectively account for more than 10 million deaths worldwide each year. He has been a leading proponent of protein-based pneumococcal vaccines, and has served on the *WHO Global Programme for Vaccines Steering Committee for Bacterial Vaccines against Meningitis and Pneumonia*. During his career, he has attracted over \$60 million in research grants and has published over 220 papers in leading scientific journals, including *Nature*, *Nature Medicine*, the *Journal of Experimental Medicine* and *PNAS*.



**Professor Geoffrey Davidson** is a Senior Gastroenterologist within the Centre for Paediatric and Adolescent Gastroenterology at the Women's and Children's Hospital. He developed a research laboratory at the Hospital in 1978 and member of the team that discovered rotavirus in 1973. He pioneered the development of Gastrogard® a hyperimmune colostrum product to prevent rotavirus gastroenteritis which was registered as a therapeutic product in 1995. He was awarded a public service medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours June 1997 for his outstanding public service in the field of Paediatric Gastroenterology. He was a major contributor to the introduction of Rotavirus Vaccine on the routine immunisation schedule in July 2007. He also pioneered the development of breath testing for gastrointestinal function and developed a novel, patented breath test for detection of mucosal damage now licensed to a commercial company. He discovered and described a new disease called Davidson's Disease or Microvillus Inclusion Disease that causes intractable diarrhoea. He has more than 100 publications in peer reviewed journals and has supervised many BSc Honours, Masters and PhD students.



**Professor Eric Gowans** is Executive Director of the Women's and Children's Health Research Institute. Prof Gowans was attracted back to Adelaide in 2009 as Executive Director, Women's and Children's Research Institute and has established a virus research laboratory in the Institute. Throughout his career, he has supervised 15 PhD students and has been awarded a number of grants from the NHMRC, NIH, WHO and several smaller funding bodies over a period of 20 years and has been a dominant force in hepatitis virology both nationally and internationally for many years. He was a previous member of the International Organising Committee for the annual meeting of HCV and Related Viruses and organised this meeting in Australia on three occasions. He was instrumental in forming the Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology, Inc, a group comprised of basic scientists who work on the hepatitis viruses and was a previous member of the Executive of ACH2, a virtual centre which is funded to perform translational research into HIV and HCV. He was awarded the Fenner Prize by the Australian Society for Microbiology and is a reviewer for a number of virology and gastroenterology journals.



**Dr Helen Marshall** is the Director of the Paediatric Trials Unit (PTU), a multidisciplinary immunisation research group at the Women's and Children's Hospital, part of the Children's Research Centre and affiliated with the University of Adelaide. The PTU's research program includes clinical trials in investigational vaccines, epidemiology and public health. Dr Marshall is a medical graduate and senior lecturer in the Discipline of Paediatrics and Discipline of Public Health at the University of Adelaide and has been a Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator for over 40, Phase 1 – IV clinical trials of investigational vaccines. Dr Marshall was the recipient of the inaugural Public Health Education and Research Scholarship, awarded following completion of the Master in Public Health Degree. Dr Marshall has presented her research at many national and international public health, immunisation and infectious diseases meetings and published in international peer-reviewed journals.