

MEDIA RELEASE

The Future of Oncology: Improving Outcomes Through Innovation

MOGA 2021 Online Annual Scientific Meeting 5-6 August 2021

The Medical Oncology Group of Australia's (MOGA) 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) – **The Future of Oncology: Improving Outcomes Through Innovation** will be held on 5-6 August. "The last eighteen months have unquestionably been the most challenging time many of us have endured in our professional lives...With careful and flexible planning, we have seen a successful reconfiguration of many of the established norms of medical practice, including the way we consult and treat our patients, and how we meet and interact as a body of medical oncologists...The need to connect has never been more important - to learn, disseminate information and support each other to deliver optimal patient care. Our 2021 meeting will be held entirely virtually, with a focus on engagement and interaction ...", Dr Felicia Roncolato and Dr Florian Honeyball, Co-Convenors.

This ASM will focus on the future of oncology, particularly in Australia. Dr Andrew Dean will chair a symposium on technological advances, Dr Melissa Moore hosts a symposium exploring current and future developments in lung cancer, and Dr Belinda Kiely and Dr Sanjeev Kumar will deliver a masterclass on neo-adjuvant therapy in breast cancer. We are delighted to host international guest presenters who will assist in the clinical symposia, Professor Carlos H. Barrios (Brazil) and Professor Martin Reck (Germany), as well as Australian experts Dr Venessa Chin, Dr David Joseph, Associate Professor Nat Lenzo and Professor Ben Solomon.

Oral presentations of proffered papers this year will allow trainees and young oncologists to concisely present their research and answer questions in real time. Trainees and young oncologists will have a focussed meeting program which will be available on demand. The program will also offer a virtual poster "walk and talk" as Dr Kate Mahon and Dr Rob Zielinski present the best posters of the ASM and allow for audience questions to the poster presenters.

Two symposia will focus on leadership and workforce in a changing and more demanding future for Australian medical oncologists. Professor Sabe Sabesan, Dr Lucinda Morris and Professor Dorothy Keefe will discuss tips, trends and innovation in leadership within oncology and the broader health system to manage the challenges of increasing demand for our services and treatments in a session. Dr Craig Underhill and Associate Professor Phillip Parente will present the outcomes on data on current staffing and future requirements of the medical oncology workforce.

Highlight sessions will include Professor Barrios reviewing novel managements of triple negative breast cancer and Dr James Harraway outlining genetic diagnoses to guide treatments of cancer. Professor Reck will examine immunotherapy in lung tumours besides adenocarcinomas and squamous cell carcinomas, and an interactive expert panel discussion prostate cancer will include Dr Ganes Pranavan, Dr Andrew Redfern, Dr Vanessa Wong, and Dr Catherine Paterson.

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Media Release

MOGA 2021 Online Annual Scientific Meeting – *The Future of Oncology: Improving Outcomes Through Innovation*

Australian medical oncologist Professor Clare Scott awarded prestigious Cancer Achievement Award

One of Australia's best-known medical oncology professionals, both nationally and globally, Professor Clare Scott, based in Melbourne, Victoria, is the 2021 recipient of the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA) – Novartis Oncology Cancer Achievement Award. The Cancer Achievement Award recognises outstanding contributions to medical oncology in Australia.

In announcing the Award, MOGA Chair, Associate Professor Prunella Blinman, says. "Clare is an outstanding clinician, researcher, publisher, teacher, mentor, scientist and champion for the medical oncology profession. I have always been impressed by her boundless passion and enthusiasm for clinical practice, research, and patient management. She has made a major contribution to the advancement of oncology in Australia, both as a medical oncologist and as a leader in clinical trials and research in ovarian and rare cancers, and in supporting and mentoring young investigators and members of the oncology profession."

The Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA) and Novartis Oncology Cancer Achievement Award recognises outstanding contributions made by scientists, clinicians and other health professionals to cancer research and control in Australia. Since 1999 this Award has been presented to 21 leaders in the field of Australian Oncology.

Professor Scott receives the Award for her meritorious contribution as a medical oncology clinician, clinician-researcher, leader and mentor. Clare Scott is Professor of Gynaecological Cancer Obstetrics and Gynaecology Royal Women's Hospital/Mercy, University of Melbourne and Joint Division Head Division Clinical Translation, ACRF Cancer Biology and Stem Cells at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne. Her dedication to rare and ovarian cancers research over the last decade has contributed significantly to the establishment of platforms whereby clinical, research and consumer organisations can collaborate to impact on rare cancer survivorship. Professor Scott's skills in clinical oncology, evidence-based medicine and research have resulted in the leadership of numerous, influential clinical trials.

Dr Othon Gervasio, Medical Director, Novartis Group (Australia and New Zealand). "I would like to congratulate Professor Scott for her remarkable achievements in ovarian and rare cancers research, and improvement of patient outcomes. A very well-deserved award, representing considerable contributions towards the progress of medical care in oncology."

Professor Scott will be presented with the Award and deliver the 2021 Cancer Achievement Presentation, at MOGA's Online Annual Scientific Meeting on Thursday 5 August (11-11.45am).

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MEDICAL ONCOLOGY GROUP OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

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MEDIA RELEASE

Professor Anna Nowak Awarded Professor Martin H. Tattersall AO Heroes Award 2021

The Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA) is pleased to announce that Professor Anna Nowak, Perth has been awarded the inaugural Professor M. Tattersall Heroes Award in 2021. Professor Nowak is a Medical Oncologist at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Pro Vice Chancellor (Health and Medical Research) at The University of Western Australia (UWA) and a Clinical Academic in the UWA Medical School.

This new Award seeks to recognise contributions by Australian medical oncologists that honour the spirit, courage and commitment of the late Professor Martin H. Tattersall AO, and his significant contributions to Medical Oncology in Australia. The Award provides a \$5,000 grant to support the recipient's ongoing professional development and research activities.

Associate Professor Prunella Blinman, the Chair of MOGA said "Professor Martin Tattersall AO was a giant of medical oncology, a founding member and the first chair of MOGA. He was responsible for the establishment and development of medical oncology in Australia. Professor Anna Nowak is an outstanding colleague who embodies the very spirit and intent of this new Award in all her endeavours."

Professor Nowak is a Medical Oncologist at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, and is the Director of the National Centre for Asbestos Related Diseases (NCARD) based at UWA. She has made a significant and lasting impact on the practice of Medical Oncology in Australia and worldwide. Professor Nowak has led transformative research in mesothelioma with profound and far-reaching impacts on people with this fatal condition. Experimental work from her PhD showed that chemotherapy and immunotherapy were synergistic, which has ultimately led to the development of three clinical trials of chemo-immunotherapy in mesothelioma, including the positive DREAM clinical trial and the international DREAM3R trial. She also championed the practice changing CheckMate- 743 trial. She was instrumental in establishing a cross-disciplinary state-wide Western Australian neuro-oncology service. Dr Piyush Grover, who nominated Professor Nowak for the award, commented: "Her approach to patient care embodies respect, transparency, and inclusiveness. She is also a skilled lay language communicator with the ability to inspire consumers about medical research and clinical trials. Professor Nowak is a stand-out mentor and inspires us by her commitment to our profession and patients. She encourages us to collaborate, challenge status-quo and strive for excellence...and offers her unflinching commitment to Medical Oncology to the best of her capacity".

Professor Nowak will be formally presented with the Award at the MOGA 2021 Online Annual Scientific Meeting – ***The Future of Oncology: Improving Outcomes Through Innovation*** and will deliver the Award Address at 4.30pm on 5 August 2021

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