



SHOWCASE 2021

Wednesday 24th November 2021
3.00pm – 5.15pm

PRESENTATIONS OVERVIEW

KEYNOTE

Professor Adrienne Gordon

“The potential of preconception weight loss to improve pregnancy outcomes for women with overweight and obesity”

Adrienne is a senior staff specialist Neonatologist in the RPA centre for newborn care and Clinical Professor in the Discipline of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Neonatology at the University of Sydney. She trained in paediatrics prior to specialising in neonatal/perinatal medicine and is passionate about the public health impact of a healthy start to life and preventing adverse pregnancy outcome especially stillbirth.

She is a Chief Investigator on the NHMRC Stillbirth Centre of Research Excellence, a Board Member of the International Stillbirth Alliance and Womens Healthcare Australasia and executive committee member of the PSANZ IMPACT Network (Improving Maternal and Perinatal Outcomes – Action through Clinical Trials).

She has strong links with National parent led organisations - including Stillbirth and Preterm Birth Advocacy Groups and is Deputy Chair of the National RedNose scientific advisory group.

Adrienne currently leads the Public Awareness work within the Stillbirth Centre of Research Excellence which includes mass media campaign design and evaluation in collaboration with Prof Adrian Bauman from the University of Sydney. She leads an MRFF funded multisite trial called PreBabe which aims to recruit around 2000 women with overweight and obesity pre-pregnancy to assess whether weight loss will improve clinical pregnancy outcomes.



Associate Professor Jacqui Boyle

“The Australian Preconception Health Network: Integrating consumers, health, social care, policy and research with an equity framework to optimise health in preconception for all.”

A/Prof Jacqueline Boyle is an academic obstetrician/gynaecologist based at Monash Health and Monash University.

She is passionate about improving women's health and wellbeing through equity in access to health promotion and culturally responsive health and social care services.

Jacqui is a Chief Investigator of CRE HiPP, leading the preconception health stream, and is co-founder of the Australian Preconception Health Network.



Dr Ruth Walker

“Co-designing a sexual and reproductive health curriculum to promote preconception health in young people”

Ruth is a dietitian, secondary school teacher, and a post-doctoral research fellow within CRE HiPP focusing on preconception health.

Ruth has led research projects across preconception and pregnancy, including workforce capacity building, health system enhancement, the co-design of resources to support women with healthy lifestyle behaviour change and digital health.

She is working with teachers, health professionals and young people to increase community awareness of the importance of preconception health, particularly among young people who are not currently planning to become pregnant.



Dr Danielle Schoenaker

“The UK Preconception Partnership: normalising, improving and measuring preparation for pregnancy”

Danielle is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Southampton in the UK, with a background in nutritional and public health epidemiology. Danielle was awarded her PhD from the University of Queensland in 2017, which examined the role of preconception dietary patterns in the development of maternal pregnancy complications.

In her current role, Danielle leads the analysis of national routine health data to produce the first picture of the state of preconception health in England and inform national surveillance. Her programme of work supports the UK Preconception Partnership's objectives to normalise, improve and measure preconception health in the UK. She is also an active member of the HiPPP Early and Mid-Career Researcher Collective that is associated with CRE HiPP.



KEYNOTE

Professor Fionnuala McAuliffe

“Lifecourse approach to improve maternal and infant health”

Fionnuala McAuliffe is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at National Maternity Hospital Dublin, Head of Women's and Child's Health at University College Dublin and Director of the UCD Perinatal Research Centre, a multidisciplinary research centre aiming to improve outcome for mother and baby through clinically relevant pregnancy research.

She is the principal Investigator on many clinical randomised intervention trials in pregnancy to improve maternal and infant health such as ROLO study which is a large randomised trial examining the impact of a low glycaemic diet on maternal and fetal health, and is currently following these mothers and children to 10 years of age, PROPS study (RCT of probiotics in obese and diabetic pregnancy), PEARS study (RCT of lifestyle package with smart phone app) and the TEST study (RCT of aspirin in low risk pregnancy). She has recently received grant funding from Science Foundation Ireland to carry out a 5-year programme on the inter-relation between mother and baby microbiome (Microbe Mom).

She has received significant grant funding both nationally and internationally and has over 350 peer reviewed publications. She is a reviewer for over 40 international scientific journals and has developed guidelines for pregnancy in Ireland, UK and internationally.

She is FIGO executive council member and Chair of FIGO committee on Impact of Pregnancy on Long-term Health. She is co-lead of the FIGO pregnancy obesity and nutrition initiative. Other roles include Council member Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists UK, Scientific advisor for British Maternal and Fetal Medicine Society.

