

What's in the pipeline?

Tuesday 30 October 2018

8:45am – 4:30pm

(Registration from 8:00am)

State Library of Queensland  
Cultural Precinct, Stanley Pl, South Brisbane

Ninth Annual  
**Queensland Epilepsy  
Symposium**



Thinking  
**outside**  
the **BOX!**

Join us for some stimulating dialogue...

**Autoimmune Epilepsy**

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**Disease Modifying Therapies**

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**Can Venomous Animals Help Us Develop Medicines?**

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Register online: <https://epilepsysymposium.eventbrite.com.au>  
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<b>8:00am - 8:45am</b>	<b>Registration</b>	Coffee and tea on arrival
<b>8:45am - 9:00am</b>	<b>Welcome and acknowledgment of country</b>	Epilepsy Queensland
<b>9:00am - 10:00am</b>	<b>Autoimmune Epilepsy: From biomarker to cure</b>	Professor Sean Pittock Professor of Neurology Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
<b>10:00am - 10:30am</b>	<b>Seizure prediction devices</b>	Professor David Reutens Director of the Centre for Advanced Imaging The University of Queensland
<b>10:30am - 11:00am</b>	<b>Morning Tea</b>	
<b>11:00am - 11:45am</b>	<b>Can venomous animals help us develop medicines for epilepsy?</b>	Professor Glenn King NHMRC Principal Research Fellow The University of Queensland
<b>11:45am - 12:30pm</b>	<b>The changing landscape of paediatric epilepsy surgery</b>	Dr Stephen Malone Paediatric Neurologist and Epileptologist Lady Cilento Children's Hospital
<b>12:30pm - 1:30pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>1:30pm - 2:30pm</b>	<b>Disease modifying therapies for epilepsy: making the dream a reality.</b>	Professor Terence O'Brien Head of Department of Neuroscience and Deputy Head of Central Clinical School Monash University
<b>2:30pm - 3:00pm</b>	<b>New dietary treatments for epilepsy</b>	Associate Professor Karin Borges Head of Neurological Disorders and Metabolism Laboratory The University of Queensland
<b>3:00pm - 3:30pm</b>	<b>A Nurse Practitioner for Epilepsy</b>	Mr Peter Jones Nurse Practitioner (Epilepsy) Mater Centre for Neurosciences
<b>3:30pm - 4:15pm</b>	<b>Transitional care for adolescents</b>	Dr James Wheless Professor and Chief of Pediatric Neurology Le Bonheur Chair in Pediatric Neurology University of Tennessee Health Science Center Director, Neuroscience Institute & LeBonheur Comprehensive Epilepsy Program LeBonheur Children's Hospital

Trade displays available

## State Library of Queensland

Cultural Precinct, Stanley Pl, South Brisbane QLD 4101



**Auditorium 1**  
**Level 2**  
**State**  
**Library of Queensland**

### Transport

Bus - Cultural Precinct Busway Station in Melbourne Street. Chartered bus temporary set-down in Stanley Place.

Train - South Brisbane Station, corner of Melbourne and Grey Streets.

For further public transport information contact TransLink on 13 12 30.

Paid parking is available at public carparks.



**Professor Sean Pittcock** MB, MMed Sci, M.D., is a consultant in the Department of Neurology and has a joint appointment in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology. He holds the academic rank of professor of neurology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. He currently serves as director of the Neuroimmunology Laboratory and is the Marilyn A. Park and Moon S. Park, M.D., Director of the Center for Multiple Sclerosis and Autoimmune Neurology. In 2006, he set up the Autoimmune Neurology Clinic at the Mayo Clinic, the first dedicated Clinic of its type in the USA. This Clinic provides a multidisciplinary approach to the evaluation and treatment of patients with a broad range of autoimmune neurological disorders considered “rare orphan diseases”. These disorders have often been misdiagnosed as untreatable neurodegenerative diseases; but are, in fact, responsive to immunotherapy and reversible.

Dr Pittcock’s research is translational, and is focused on 1) the identification of novel biomarkers of autoimmune neurological diseases, 2) the clinical application of laboratory-based tests in diagnosis and outcome prediction for patients with autoimmune neurological disorders and 3) optimizing the clinical management of autoimmune neurological disorders. His recent work has focused on the diagnostic characteristics and immunotherapy outcomes of patients with autoimmune CNS demyelinating disorders (targets include aquaporin-4), dementias (target includes voltage-gated potassium channels), epilepsies (targets include NMDA receptors) and gastrointestinal dysmotility (targets include ganglionic acetylcholine receptors). This unique translational practice extending the laboratory’s serologic findings directly to the bedside has allowed the creation of diagnostic decision trees which will optimize triaging of such patients for further phenotype analysis and biomarker discovery.

Dr Pittcock is currently Vice Chair of the section for Autoimmune Neurology at the AAN. He is actively involved in educational courses at both national (American Academy of Neurology, American Neurological Association) and international (World Congress of Neurology) meetings.



**Professor David Reutens** is a senior staff specialist at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, and heads its Comprehensive Epilepsy Program. He is also the inaugural director of the Centre for Advanced Imaging (CAI) and Foundation Professor of Experimental Neurology at The University of Queensland. Prior to this he was the Professor of Neuroscience at Monash University and Director of Neurology at Southern Health.

Professor Reutens’ research involves the combination of imaging techniques to study functions such as memory in diseases such as epilepsy, more accurate ways of localising epileptogenic tissue and new therapies to prevent and treat epilepsy. He is also a member of Epilepsy Queensland’s Medical Advisory Group.



**Professor Glenn King** Professor King’s research team uses the complex chemical arsenals of venomous animals to develop drugs to treat epilepsy, chronic pain, and stroke. His laboratory at the University of Queensland maintains the largest collection of venoms in the world, comprising more than 600 venoms from ants, assassin bugs, caterpillars, centipedes, scorpions, and spiders. Professor King has published 3 books, 19 book chapters, and more than 230 peer-reviewed articles in international scientific journals.

Recent awards include the 2013 Beckman Coulter Discovery Science Award from the Australian Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, the 2013 Sir Rutherford Robertson Award from the Australian Society for Biophysics, the 2015 ANZMAG Medal from the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital



**Dr Stephen Malone** is a Paediatric Epileptologist and staff specialist Paediatric Neurologist at the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital, Brisbane. He commenced training in Paediatric Neurology and Epilepsy in Brisbane including bench to bedside paediatric pharmacology research under the supervision of Professor Mervyn Eadie. He subsequently trained in Paediatric Clinical Neurology and Epilepsy in RCH Melbourne and the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, and then undertook Clinical Neurophysiology and Paediatric Epilepsy Surgery Fellowships at the Miami Children’s Hospital, USA.

On returning to Brisbane Dr Malone helped establish the first dedicated Paediatric Epilepsy monitoring unit at the RCH Brisbane, allowing Queensland children local and timely access to important services previously only available in Melbourne and Sydney. This service continues to grow in its volume and scope. He was nominated for an Epilepsy Queensland award during his training, and was the recipient of the Health Award in 2010.

Dr Malone enjoys teaching and is faculty member of the ANZAN/Epilepsy Society of Australia EEG teaching course, and has active research and clinical interests in Paediatric surgery and functional imaging, and seizure monitoring in children with stroke and critical illness. He has published on Paediatric epilepsy surgery and imaging topics, pharmacology, movement disorders, and in collaboration with national and international colleagues new findings in epilepsy genetics and emerging immune triggers for seizures in children. He was treasurer of the ESA from 2012-2015, and is local co-organizer of the ESA meeting in Brisbane in 2018. Doctor Malone is a member of Epilepsy Queensland’s Medical Advisory Group.



**Professor Terry O'Brien Terence J. O'Brien**, MB, BS, MD, FRACP, FRCPE, FAHMS, FAES, is The Van Cleef Roet Professor of Medicine (Neurology) and Head, Departments of Neuroscience, Monash University and Director of Neurology and Deputy Director of Research, Alfred Health.

He was formally The University of Melbourne's James Stewart Chair of Medicine and Head, The Department of Medicine, The Royal Melbourne Hospitals (2008-17), where he continues as a consultant neurologist as part of the the combined RMH-Alfred Epilepsy Program. He is a specialist in neurology and clinical pharmacology, with particular expertise in epilepsy and neurodegenerative diseases, neuropharmacology and in-vivo imaging in animal models and humans. He did his clinical and research training at St. Vincent's and Royal Melbourne Hospitals in Melbourne, and then the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (1995-1998). He leads a large translational research team undertaking both basic studies and clinical studies focused on developing improved treatments for people with epilepsy and related brain diseases, including traumatic brain injury, dementias and brain tumours.

The work has had two primary goals: First to better understand the determinants of treatment response, identify biomarkers for treatment outcomes – imaging, electrophysiological, genomic and clinical, and develop new treatment approaches. Second to investigate the fundamental neurobiological basis, and inter-relationship, of the neuropsychiatric co-morbidities present in many patients with epilepsy and neurodegenerative conditions. He has been involved as a Principle Investigator in more than 80 commercially sponsored and investigator initiated trials of new treatments for epilepsy, dementias, headache, movement disorders, and new PET radiotracers. He has published >390 peer-reviewed original papers in leading scientific and medical journals which have been cited ≈13,000 times.



**Associate Professor Karin Borges** studied Biology and obtained her PhD in Neurobiology in Germany. She continued her education as a postdoctoral fellow and instructor at Emory University (USA) and then as Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University. Since 2009 at the University of Queensland, her long-term goal is to find new treatments for neurological disorders, including metabolic approaches for epilepsy.

Many Honours students and five PhD students have completed their thesis work in her laboratory. She discovered triheptanoin as a new metabolic treatment for epilepsy and Motor Neurone Disease and tested its effect in people with epilepsy in three clinical trials in Australia. Currently, she is working to identify new improved metabolic treatments.



**Peter Jones** initially studied Science at the University of the West of England in the UK before pursuing a nursing career in the late 1990s. Following graduation as a registered nurse from the University of Southampton, Peter moved to Australia and began working in general medicine at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital in 2002. He quickly discovered an affinity for acute and critical care, moving to the Intensive Care Unit, completing postgraduate qualifications in ICU nursing at QUT in 2006. It was during this time that he began to specialise in neurosurgery and neurological patient care. After a year as a clinical facilitator he moved into a management role, helping to set up an innovative 28-bed post-acute care ward in 2008. He would soon progress to the position of Nurse Unit Manager in Neurology at the Royal Brisbane Hospital—it was here that his interest in

epilepsy really began to flourish as his role encapsulated the management of the epilepsy monitoring service.

In 2015, Peter was offered an opportunity to help design and set up an advanced epilepsy monitoring service at the new Mater Centre for Neurosciences. He is currently the Nurse Practitioner for Epilepsy at the centre and part of a team of dedicated specialists who explore the network of epilepsy through various novel and state-first therapies, including stereotactic EEG—deep brain electrode implantation used to localise otherwise untreatable seizures.

Peter has previously won quality innovation awards for his role in creating a model of care for best practice in epilepsy at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. He has also been recognised at the Mater Hospital Brisbane for his commitment to patients with epilepsy and kindly recognised in 2017 by Epilepsy Queensland with the Health Award.

Peter is the only dedicated Nurse Practitioner for epilepsy in Queensland and one of only 2 NPs working in the field of epilepsy in Australia (that he is aware of!). He currently holds positions as a Nurse Practitioner for epilepsy at both the Mater Hospital Brisbane and the Princess Alexandra Hospital.



**Dr. Wheless** is Professor and Chief of Pediatric Neurology and the Le Bonheur Chair in Pediatric Neurology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. He also serves as Director of the Neuroscience Institute and the Le Bonheur Comprehensive Epilepsy Program for the Le Bonheur Children's Hospital.

Dr. Wheless is a Diplomat of the American Board of Pediatrics, and the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with special qualifications in Child Neurology, Clinical Neurophysiology, and Epilepsy. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Neurology & the American Epilepsy Society. Dr. Wheless is a member of the Editorial Board of Journal of Child Neurology, Formulary, and Epilepsy.com and serves as reviewer of a number of journals including Neurology, Epilepsia, Pediatrics, and Epilepsy and Behavior. Dr. Wheless's primary interests include childhood convulsive disorders. His research is focused on pediatric anti-epileptic drug development, the ketogenic diet, epilepsy surgery, device therapy, and non-invasive functional brain mapping. Dr. Wheless is the author of more than 560 chapters, articles and abstracts on these subjects. He is the editor of three textbooks on Epilepsy. He has lectured widely on pediatric epilepsy. He received his medical degree from the University of Oklahoma and completed residency training in pediatrics at the University of Oklahoma and then pediatric neurology at Northwestern University in Chicago at Children's Memorial Hospital. His EEG/clinical epilepsy training was at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta.