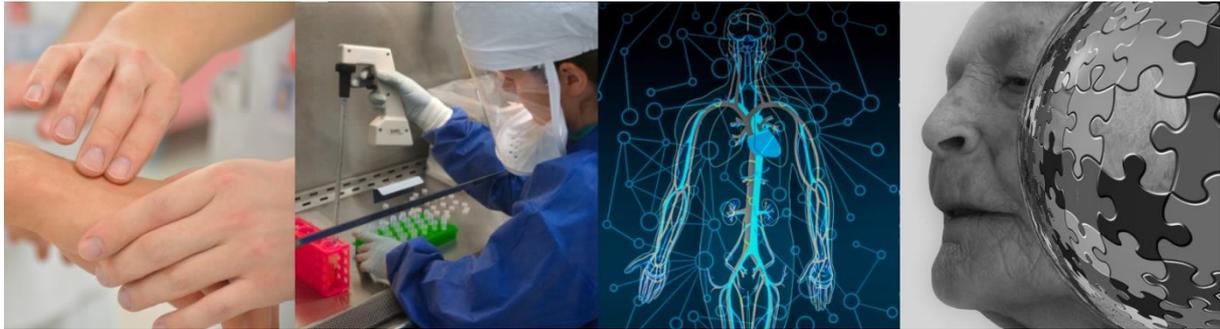


# AFRAN Symposium

## Public Health: A Global Issue

5-7 April 2022  
In-person and online



The Australian-French Association for Research and Innovation (AFRAN Ltd) is organising a hybrid three-day [public health symposium](#) to celebrate the World Health Day on April 7. This symposium will cover three themes: tropical diseases on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, cardiovascular diseases, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April, and disorders of the nervous system, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April. It will bring together researchers who are experts in these fields, but also associations, government agencies, high-tech companies... The event is expected to explore how international public health links and networks between patients, practitioners, researchers, industry and politics are being forged and functioning, and to promote the benefits of international collaborations.

- **Tuesday 5th April 2022 4-7pm (AEST): Tropical diseases – framework for collaboration**

**Opening remarks:**



- **Prof Frederic Hollande**

Prof. Frédéric Hollande works in the field of cancer cell and translational biology. He worked for CNRS from 1996 to 2011. He co-founded and was the joint-scientific director of a biotech company from 2007 to 2011. He now works in the Department of Clinical Pathology at the University of Melbourne. He has maintained strong collaborative relationships with French colleagues and heads the Australian node of an INSERM/CNRS Laboratoire International Associé (LIA) in partnership with the Cancer Research Centre of Lyon (CRCL, Prof Alain Puisieux).

**Panel 1: Countries and international organisations' role**

**Chair:**



- **Prof Peter Revill** is a senior medical scientist and laboratory head at VIDRL, Royal Melbourne Hospital at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity. Professor Revill has a strong national and international reputation in hepatitis B virus (HBV) virology and pathogenesis. In 2016, he co-founded the global HBV cure initiative, the International Coalition to Eliminate Hepatitis B (ICE-HBV), and in 2019 led publication of the first ICE-HBV Global Scientific Strategy for HBV cure, and co-convened the International HBV Molecular Virology conference in Melbourne. In 2021 he was appointed theme leader in Virology by the Australian Society for Microbiology.



- **Prof Maxine A. Whittaker**

MBBS, MPH, PhD, FAFPHM GAICD

Co-Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Vector Borne and Neglected Tropical Diseases at James Cook University

Prof Maxine Whittaker is a public health physician and health systems researcher who is an international expert on improving the health systems and services to increase accessibility and acceptability of quality services to populations and a public health leader in One Health (human-animal-environment interface). Maxine has worked closely over the last 15 years on health systems strengthening for vector borne disease prevention, surveillance and response, management, and advocacy work, including capacity building in advocacy, as well as policy translation from implementation research, and in developing short courses to support programme implementation. She was the foundation secretariat co-coordinator of the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN), and the director of the Australian Initiative for the Control and Elimination of Malaria (AICEM) and its predecessor Pacific Malaria Initiative Support Centre PacMISC). She has lived/worked in many countries in Africa, Asia and Oceania, and has extensive experience in project and programme design in health and development, gender analysis, and using rapid formative research and anthropological methods and implementation research with a variety of national governments, national research institutions, international development partners and NGO organizations.



- **Dr Marie-Isabelle PEYRE**

Eng., Ph.D., HDR

Prezode/One Health, CIRAD

Marisa Peyre is an epidemiologist specialized in the evaluation of surveillance and control programs in animal health and One Health. She is currently the deputy director of ASTRE, the integrated health research unit in CIRAD. She has been working for CIRAD (French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development) since 2006 where she carries out researches in the field of evaluative epidemiology. She graduated in 1998 in biotechnology engineering (Bordeaux, France), obtained her PhD in 2005 in Immunology (London, UK), and her habilitation to direct researches (HDR) in the field of health evaluation in 2019. She has worked for the past 15 years on the evaluation of animal and zoonotic diseases surveillance and control both in developed and developing countries, especially on emerging zoonotic risks such as animal Influenza, Ebola and MersCov and on the strengthening of public-private partnership. She provides expertise for international organizations such as OIE, FAO, World Bank, Galvmed. Her key expertise is on the design and evaluation of health systems (surveillance and control) including wildlife and integrated One Health surveillance systems; animal health economics; participatory epidemiology and public-private partnerships. She is a member of the preparatory committee of the PREZODE initiative (Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence) and coordinate this initiative for Cirad.



- **Dr Selina Lo**

Executive Director of the Australian Global Health Alliance

Dr Lo has over two decades experience in global and international health with qualifications in medicine (University of Melbourne), tropical medicine (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) and a Master in Public and International Law (University of Melbourne). Throughout her international career, Selina has been a Medical Director for Essential Medicines for Doctors without Borders, Senior Editor for the Lancet in London and Beijing, inaugural CEO for Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA), consultant to the UN International Institute of Global Health and most recently invited to join the World Pandemic Research Network and the Cancer Council Victoria Climate and Health reference groups. Selina comes to the Alliance from the Monash Sustainable Development Institute (MSDI), aligning global and planetary health with MSDI through strategic publications and grants.



- **Dr Salanieta Saketa**

Senior Epidemiologist, Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Programme, Public Health Division, Pacific Community

Dr Salanieta Saketa currently works as Senior Epidemiologist with the Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Program of the Public Health Division, Pacific Community (SPC). She is based in SPC Office Suva, Fiji, supporting ministries and departments of health of Pacific Island countries and territories to strengthen capacity for prevention, detection, and response to priority outbreak prone diseases of the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (PPHSN) and to emerging pandemic diseases such as COVID-19. She has worked in public health and epidemiology in the Fiji health service for over 20 years and most recently joined SPC in 2015. After medical school and public health training at the Fiji School of Medicine and Hebrew University, Jerusalem respectively (MBBS and MPH), Salanieta practiced primary care medicine at various health facilities in Fiji and later became a manager of public health programs at divisional level before becoming the national epidemiologist and the Permanent Secretary of Health. Her subsequent technical work in Pacific Island countries and territories focused on strengthening surveillance and response during mass gatherings, capacity building in epidemiology through the Data for decision making training and strengthening outbreak investigation and response. In more recent years her experience has included strengthening vector surveillance and control and the use of One Health approach to tackling emerging and re-emerging diseases: and in partnerships with regional and international technical and development partners. She is committed to working with health and development partners in and outside of government.

**Panel 2: Research collaboration opportunities:**

**Chair:**



- **Dr Myrielle Dupont-Rouzeyrol**

Institut Pasteur of New Caledonia

Myrielle DUPONT-ROUZEYROL (PhD) is working in the field of arboviruses at Institut Pasteur of New Caledonia. She is the head of the Arbovirus Unit. Her research activities focus on arboviruses and vectors in New Caledonia and the Pacific region. Working in this region for more than 10 years, she has acquired excellent expertise in the epidemiology and evolution of arboviruses circulating in New Caledonia and the Pacific, allowing her to build strong collaborations with local and regional partners. The studies implemented in the unit combine the molecular evolution of arboviruses with studies of vector competence or with more clinical studies on the physiopathology of arboviruses.



- **Dr Tanya Russell**

Senior Research Fellow,

Co-lead of the Mosquito-Borne Diseases Group, James Cook University

Dr Tanya Russell is an Australian medical entomologist and ecologist at James Cook University. The aim of her research is to stop the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases globally, but with a particular focus on the Asia-Pacific. She has pioneered numerous large-scale field experiments across the Pacific, Asia and Africa demonstrating how the ecology of the mosquito vectors plays a significant role in disease transmission. Dr Russell's research experience is extensive and ranges from field trials, experimental huts, semi-field systems and laboratory bioassays. She maintains an extensive network of national and international research collaborators, and engages at international conferences. Her research leadership has been recognised with an invitation to become a member of the World Health Organization Guidelines Development Group for vector control for malaria as well as the Malaria Elimination Advisory Group by the Ministry of Health Vanuatu.



- **A/Prof Susana Vaz Nery,**

UNSW, Kirby Institute

Susana has a multidisciplinary background, combining degrees and experience in biochemistry, neurosciences, health policy and international development, and field epidemiology in tropical diseases. She began her career on tropical diseases as a malaria molecular parasitologist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. While based in London, she led malaria research in top African research centres (Kenya Medical Research Institute; Medical Research Council - The Gambia Unit; Joint Malaria Programme in Tanzania). In 2007 she joined the Malaria Consortium in Mozambique, as a monitoring and evaluation and public health specialist, providing technical support to the National Malaria Control Program. She then moved to Angola as the scientific coordinator of the CISA Project leading a team of approximately 70 scientific and field staff. In 2012 she re-joined academia to work on the control of soil transmitted helminths and other tropical diseases. Susana has joined the Kirby Institute at UNSW in 2018, where she leads the Neglected Tropical Diseases research group that uses intervention studies to generate evidence that can inform health policy changes for more effective and sustainable disease control strategies.



- **Dr Alexandre Bourles**  
Institut Pasteur of New Caledonia

Bourles Alexandre is a young researcher in Bacteriology pole. He has joined the Pasteur Institute of New Caledonia since March 2020. His research activities focus on antimicrobial resistance and more precisely on the dissemination of antimicrobial resistance in the environment. Culture and metagenomics approaches are used to track multi drug resistance bacteria from sources (hospitals and the community) down to the coastal area all through the wastewater network.



- **Prof Pablo Tortosa**  
Université de la Réunion

Prof Pablo Tortosa is a molecular microbiologist working at the Infectious Processes in Tropical Island Environments Research Unit (UMR PIMIT) on La Réunion Island. He has been working in molecular bacteriology during his PhD (Paris, France), Post Doc (NYC, USA) and in La Réunion as Professor. The models he has been working on include *Bacillus subtilis*, *Wolbachia pipientis* and pathogenic *Leptospira*. This latter species is an environmental zoonotic pathogen that he has been extensively studying for the last 5-7 years. The team he leads at UMR PIMIT/University of La Réunion has described *Leptospira* diversity and biological cycles in most of the islands of the western Indian Ocean, showing fairly distinct transmission chains in the different insular ecosystems, including either introduced species/lineages or endemic bacteria that have co-evolved with their mammalian reservoirs. Beside pathogenic *Leptospira*, he is interested in developing innovative and environmental-friendly strategies for the control of the tiger mosquito *Aedes albopictus*, using his academic experience in *Wolbachia* endosymbiotic bacteria.

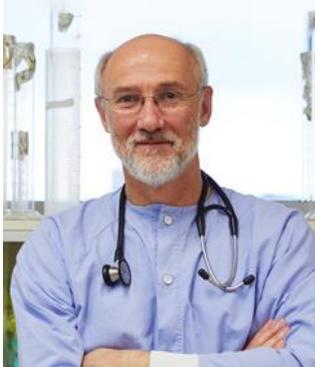


- **Mr Regis Launay**  
Vice-President, Head of Commercial Operations JPAC  
General Manager ANZ  
Sanofi, Vaccines

Heading the Operations for Sanofi Vaccines in Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands (Regional Office based in Sydney - Australia), including leading in direct the Sanofi Vaccines Business Unit in Australia & New Zealand. Prior to that role, Regis was Vice-President, Global Franchise Head for Paediatric Vaccines (Polio Pertussis Hib) & Boosters (Lyon – Sanofi Pasteur Vaccines Headquarters), leading the strategy of all Sanofi paediatric combination vaccines and the efforts of the company for the Polio Eradication in partnership with some third parties like WHO, Unicef or Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Having 15 years' experience in the pharma/vaccines industry holding positions across international geographies in Europe, Latin America, North-East Asia, Middle East Asia, Middle East and Africa. He has passion for the business and for the value that vaccines bring to human lives every day. His leadership across multicultural teams across the globe drives agility and cross-functional collaboration to develop partnerships and new market access models in an international environment.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Cardiovascular diseases and researches**  
*The power of international collaboration to tackle the world's leading cause of death*

**Opening remarks:**



- **Prof Karlheinz Peter**

Professor Karlheinz Peter is Deputy Director (Basic and Translational Research), lead of the Atherothrombosis Program and head of the Atherothrombosis and Vascular Biology laboratory at the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute. He is also an interventional cardiologist at the Alfred Hospital. He is Professor of Medicine and Immunology at Monash University, and holds an adjunct professorial position at La Trobe University. Professor Peter holds a NHMRC L3 Investigator research fellowship, and was recently appointed Head of the Baker Department of Cardiometabolic Health at Melbourne University.



- **Prof Thierry Correge**

Thierry Corrège joined the Embassy of France in September 2020 as Science and Higher Education Attaché. Before that, he had been professor of Earth and Marine Sciences at the University of Bordeaux since 2005, and deputy director of the EPOC (Continental and Oceanic Paleoenvironments and Environments) laboratory (U. Bordeaux/CNRS). He gained a PhD in geology from ANU in 1993, then joined the IRD (French National Research Institute of Sustainable Development) with postings in France, New Caledonia and Australia, before moving on to the University of Bordeaux. He has published more than sixty scientific papers on tropical paleoclimatology and the El Niño phenomenon.

**Panel 1: Organisation presentations:**

**Chair:**



- **Dr Rachel Climie**

Dr. Rachel Climie is a Heart Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow and clinical Exercise Physiologist at the Menzies Institute for Medical Research in Tasmania. Her research focuses on vascular ageing and how exercise can be used to prevent or delay this. In collaboration with her European colleagues, Rachel was recently awarded a European Collaboration in Science and Technology Action grant to translate vascular ageing research into clinical practice. She is currently leading the international and collaborative Youth Vascular Consortium.



- **Ms Gemma A Figtree**

MB BS, DPhil (Oxon), FRACP, FCSANZ, FAHA

Gemma Figtree is a Professor in Medicine at the University of Sydney. She co-leads the Cardiovascular Theme for Sydney Health Partners, a NHMRC Advanced Health Research and Translation Centre and is the Chair of the University of Sydney's multi-disciplinary Cardiovascular Initiative. She has dedicated herself throughout her career to unravelling key mechanisms underlying susceptibility and response to heart attack, with studies extending from the bench to large cohort studies and clinical trials. She is CIA of an NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence and Partnership grant, bringing together multi-disciplinary leaders from across the world. She is also CIA on a successful MRFF Frontier Health and Medical Research Initiative to push the boundaries and develop new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for coronary artery disease with a strong commercialisation and translation pipeline. She is committed to the promotion and advocacy of cardiovascular research, working as President of the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance.



- **Dr Lisa Murphy**

Executive Director Stroke Services, Stroke Foundation  
MRCP, DipFRCA, MBBS, BSc (Hons)

Lisa has more than 20 years' experience working in the health sector in the UK and Australia. She combines clinical expertise with successful executive leadership in the non-profit health sector. Lisa has experience in health professional and consumer evidence-based education. She has expertise in lived experience involvement and co-design and co-delivery of projects and research. She has a deep knowledge of chronic conditions and is experienced in chronic conditions advocacy and policy. As Executive Director Stroke Services at Stroke Foundation, Lisa is responsible for all programs supporting survivors of stroke and their careers and health professionals.



- **Prof Garry Jennings**

Chief Medical Advisor & Interim CEO, National Heart Foundation of Australia  
Senior Advisor, Sydney Health Partners  
Senior Director, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute

Garry Jennings AO is Interim CEO of the National Heart Foundation of Australia and ACvA Implementation and Policy Flagship co-leader. He was Executive Director of Sydney Health Partners until 2020 and of Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute until 2015. He presently continues to carry out research and clinical activities at Baker and The Alfred Hospital and as Professor of Medicine at the University of Sydney and Monash University. He was previously Director of Cardiology at The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne and Chair of the Division of Medicine. He has over 600 research publications cited more than 30,000 times. He is Associate Editor of the American Heart Association journal of Hypertension.



- **Dr Adam Chapman**

Dr Adam Chapman is the Director of Priorities and International Engagement in the Research Quality and Priorities Branch at the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). This includes responsibility for bilateral and multilateral funding call arrangements and NHMRC's participation in a variety of international fora and working groups as well as priority research areas such as dementia. Dr Chapman joined NHMRC in early 2018 having previously worked in a variety of Australian Public Service and academic roles. His experience covers policy development, program development and management, and stakeholder

engagement in higher education and research.



- **Mr Nishant Shandilya**

Nishant Shandilya is the Regional Coordinator of EURAXESS Australia & New Zealand, an initiative of the European Commission that addresses barriers to the mobility of researchers and seeks to enhance scientific collaboration between Europe and the rest of the world.

He has prominently led strategy, innovation, and international research projects – including European Commission funded grants, specifically in the fields of ICT, Internationalisation and Social Innovation. He has also led-wrote evaluation studies and impact assessment reports for several European Commission Directorates-General. In addition to helping run Centres of Excellence in different parts of the world, he has advised private and public sector clients in different areas, including innovation,

R&D support mechanisms and economic development.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nishant-shandilya/>

## **Panel 2: Research presentations:**

### **Chair:**



- **A/Prof Mathias François**

Mathias is a group leader at the Centenary Institute, at the University of Sydney and heads the David Richmond Laboratory for Cardio-Vascular Research and the Genome Imaging Center. Research from his group explore molecular mechanism of gene regulation during embryonic development and cancer.



- **A/Prof Steven Wise**

A/Prof Steven Wise is Leader of the Applied Materials Group at the School of Medical Sciences at the University of Sydney. He completed a Bachelor of Science (Hons 1, University Medal, UWS 2001) followed by a PhD studying tropoelastin assembly and function with Prof Anthony Weiss (2006) at the University of Sydney. As a postdoc he trained with Interventional Cardiologist A/Prof Martin Ng, contributing to the founding of an interdisciplinary program to develop platform biomaterials for cardiovascular applications. Working in multi-disciplinary research teams he has specialised in materials engineering, blood compatibility and interactions with endothelial and smooth muscle cells. A strength of his group is their comprehensive range of pre-clinical models for evaluation of new materials and vascular devices. His recent funding success, including NHMRC project, NHMRC development and ARC Linkage demonstrate the quality of his research program and aligns with its goals of developing implants to improve patient lives. His project to develop new synthetic conduits for arterial revascularisation received the NHMRC Marshall and Warren award for 2018.



- **Prof Alison Venn**

Professor Alison Venn is an epidemiologist and Director of the Menzies Institute for Medical Research, University of Tasmania. Her research interests span the causes, prevention and management of chronic disease. She leads the Childhood Determinants of Adult Health (CDAH) study involving follow-up of a national cohort of 8,500 children who participated in the 1985 Australian Schools Health and Fitness Survey. The CDAH study and the International Childhood Cardiovascular Cohorts (i3C) Consortium, which pools data from CDAH and six other cohorts from the US and Finland (>40,000 participants), have resulted in publications in leading international journals and provided important evidence about the role of childhood factors in predicting adult cardio-metabolic disease risk.



- **Prof Jean-Philippe Empana**

MD, PhD in epidemiology and public health,  
INSERM Research Director.

Jean-Philippe Empana is an INSERM Research director at the Paris Cardiovascular Research Centre (PARCC, [parcc.inserm.fr](http://parcc.inserm.fr)) (Paris, France), he's the co-director of a 60 staff members INSERM team dedicated to Integrative Epidemiology of Cardiovascular Diseases. Since 2021, he's the academic Chair of Global Health at the Université Paris Cité for the European alliance Circle U ([www.circle-u.eu](http://www.circle-u.eu)). Pr Empana is currently coordinating the Paris Prospective study 3, a community-based prospective cohort examining in particular the clinical relevance of non-invasively measured vascular aging parameters for CVD in 10,157 volunteers. He has established tight collaboration with other international cohorts with deep vascular ageing phenotyping such as the Maastricht study (The Netherlands). Pr Empana is also developing novel approaches for the prevention of CVD including primordial prevention for which he is a recognized expert. He's the recipient of 202 peer-reviewed international publications and of several academic grants.



- **Dr Sandrine Lioret**

Sandrine Lioret is an epidemiologist and public health researcher, working at the National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM). Her team is devoted to the research on EARly life Origins of Health (EAROH). Her research programme focuses on social inequalities in health, with a particular emphasis on early growth and obesity in children. It seeks to understand how energy balance-related behaviours, namely diet, sedentary behaviours and physical activity, mediate such social inequalities in health, with a dual approach, observational and interventional.

- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Nervous system diseases and disorders:**

***Unmet needs in nervous system disorders and harnessing the power of technology and global collaboration to address those needs.***

**Chair:**



- **Dr. Omid Kavehei**

Senior Lecturer & SOAR Fellow  
Deputy Head of School of Biomedical Engineering  
Deputy Director of Sydney Nano at The University of Sydney

He co-founded and is the current Director of BrainConnect Pty Ltd, a privately owned startup that aims to push for a less invasive and long-term neurophysiology and neuromodulation. Before his appointment at The University of Sydney, he was with the Centre for Neural Engineering at The University of Melbourne as a Research Fellow in Microelectronics, between 2011 and 2014, where he worked on an Australian flagship engineering project, the Bionic Eye. Between 2014 and 2017, he was also a tenured Lecturer with the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. He was awarded his Ph.D. in Nanoelectronics from the University of Adelaide in 2012 with the Postgraduate University Alumni Medal, a University Doctoral Research Medal, and the 2011 South Australian Young Nanotechnology Ambassador award.

**Speakers:**



- **Prof Serge Picaud**

Prof Picaud is the Director of the Paris Vision Institute since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. After a PhD in Marseille (France), and studies in Frankfurt (Germany) and University of California Berkeley, he returned to Strasbourg and then to Paris to launch his own team on retinal information processing enlarging then the focus to neuroprotection. His team, for instance, revealed how an antiepileptic drug is leading to retinal degeneration. More recently, the team has moved to developing strategies for restoring vision in blind patients. The work involved novel materials for electrodes like Graphene and Diamond or event-based camera for visual information processing. His team has validated the photovoltaic and wireless retinal implants ex vivo and in vivo on the blind primate retina, paving the way for clinical trials by the company Pixium Vision. As an alternative to retinal implants, optogenetic therapy was evaluated on rodents and primate, opening the path toward clinical trials for the company Gensight biologics. The team is now moving toward visual restoration at the level of the visual cortex for patients with optic neuropathies.



- **Prof Gregg Suaning**

Gregg J. Suaning is Professor of Biomedical Engineering with the University of Sydney. He has over a quarter of a century of experience in implantable neuroprosthesis research in both industry and academia helping the deaf to hear and the blind to see. He received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from the California State University in 1986 and 1988 respectively. His Ph.D. in visual prosthesis from UNSW was awarded in 2003. He has been awarded with several international patents in the medical device field – primarily in sensory bionics. Gregg has authored over 150 peer-reviewed manuscripts, and has played a leadership role in competitive research programs with funding in excess of \$60M during his academic career.



- **Prof Alistair McEwan**

BE/BComm MEng(Res), Sydney, Australia. PhD, Oxford, UK. MIEEE  
Ainsworth Chair of Technology and Innovation  
School of Biomedical Engineering  
Cerebral Palsy Alliance  
Chief Investigator  
ARC Training Centre for Innovative BioEngineering

Professor Alistair McEwan is the Ainsworth Chair of Technology and Innovation at Cerebral Palsy Alliance and University of Sydney, Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies. He is the Theme Leader for Biomedical Devices and Instrumentation and helps lead the Australian Research Council Training Centre for Innovative Bioengineering. He has been working for 8 years into the electrical properties of biological tissue aims at better addressing a range of major health challenges relating to cardiovascular disease, cancer and nutrition, and leading to new diagnosis techniques, particularly in the area of low-cost devices for home health care. He is Co-Founder of the Sydney Neurobionics Collaboration (SyNC), founded in 2018 to address the need for communication between clinicians and biomedical engineers to improve the disease burden of neuromotor diseases such as cerebral palsy, stroke and spinal cord injury.



- **A/Prof Catherine Arnaud**

Catherine Arnaud is a medical doctor in Public Health, working in Perinatal and Paediatric Epidemiology at Toulouse University, France. Her major research interests are in children with disabilities, focussing on determinants of prevalence rates, schooling and inclusion in society, quality of life, health inequalities, prevention and evaluation of early interventions strategies to prevent handicaps. She has strong experience in conducting epidemiological studies and currently co-leads the 3rd wave of the SPARCLE study on transition to adulthood of youth with cerebral palsy. She is the Deputy Director of the CERPOP (Center for Epidemiology and Research in POPulation health) of Toulouse and the head of its research team SPHERE (Perinatal, paediatric and adolescent Health). She has been the scientific lead of the Registry of Childhood Disabilities in Haute-Garonne county since its inception in 1999, and the Chair of the SCPE European network of cerebral palsies population-based registries for nine years. She has co-authored more than 210 published papers.



- **Dr Sarah McIntyre**

Dr Sarah McIntyre is a Senior Research Fellow, and manager of the Epidemiology team at Cerebral Palsy Alliance, the University of Sydney. She leads the NSW/ACT CP Register, and is the current Chair and Policy Group member of the Australian CP Register. She is the Joint President of the Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy & Developmental Medicine. Sarah works on numerous research projects focused on the aetiology, epidemiology of neonatal encephalopathy, congenital anomalies and cerebral palsy with the long term aim of identifying avenues for prevention and reducing severity of neurodisability. Additional research projects focusing on people currently living with neurodisability include social determinants and improving equitable access to services. Sarah is a strong proponent of involving families in research and instigated and is the Research Lead of CP Quest: Researchers and Community Members working together.



- **Dr Hayley Smithers-Sheedy**

Dr Hayley Smithers-Sheedy, BAppSc (SpPath), MPH, PhD, works as a Senior Research Fellow at the Cerebral Palsy Alliance Research Institute, The University of Sydney. Hayley coordinates and supports the establishment, maintenance, and execution of research from the Australian Cerebral Palsy Register with the aim of building both local and international research capacity. Whilst Hayley's research has predominantly been in epidemiology and identifying opportunities for prevention of neurodevelopmental disabilities particularly with reference to congenital infections, her other areas of research interest include understanding sociodemographic profiles both as risk factors and as barriers to equitable access to services, the use of social skills and mindfulness interventions adults with cerebral palsy and assistive technology.



- **Mr Clement Le Couedic**

Graduated from IMT, a leading French technological university specialized in digital, energy and environment, Clément worked as a software engineer for several years for an international medical imaging company. He then became an active member of the French open source community dedicated to healthcare. He founded in 2017, AURA, a non-profit project aiming to improve quality of life for people with epilepsy. He is a key contributor of echOpen, a project developing an affordable ultrasound probe to make medical imaging accessible everywhere in the world.