



Symposium 13: A new international collaboration to advance medication safety in people with neurodegenerative diseases: NeuroGEN

Moderators

Ian Wong, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong



Professor Ian Wong is currently the Head of Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy, University of Hong Kong. He is also the holder of Lo Shiu Kwan Kan Po Ling Endowed Professorship in Pharmacy. He is also a co-director of Centre for Medicines Optimisation Research and Education at University College London Hospital.

As an academic pharmacist with expertise in pharmacoepidemiology and big data research, Professor Wong has over 250 publications with publication in JAMA, JAMA Internal Medicine, JAMA Psychiatry, Lancet Psychiatry, Lancet Infectious Disease, Lancet Digital Health, BMJ. According to Clarivate Analytics' Essential Science Indicators,

Professor Wong has been a top 1% scholar in 2015 to 2018.

Professor Wong received the Chemist and Druggist's Pharmacy Practice Research Medal in 2004 for his research in paediatric medicines. In recognition of his work in paediatric medicines research, Professor Wong was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health in 2011, and Fellowship of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society in 2012. He was the coordinator of the ADDUCE consortium which was funded by the European Commission to evaluate the long-term safety of methylphenidate. He was a member of the NICE ADHD guideline development group in 2009 and 2018 respectively.

Simon Bell, Monash University, Australia



Professor Bell is Director, Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Monash University. He is also Adjunct Professor of Geriatric Pharmacotherapy, University of Eastern Finland. Professor Bell leads an enthusiastic team of researchers developing and implementing new services to optimise the use of medicines among older people. He is an Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Dementia Leadership Fellow, a Chief Investigator of the NHMRC Cognitive Decline Partnership Centre and NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Frailty and Healthy Ageing. Simon consults widely for government and

non-government organisations, including the Australian Government Department of Health, Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services and a range of aged care provider organisations. His research has attracted considerable attention in the professional and lay media. He was recipient of the Alzheimer's Australia Resthaven Dementia Research Award in 2013 and ASCEPT Denis Wade Johnson & Johnson New Investigator Award in 2014.

Speakers

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Wallis Lau, University College London, UK



Wallis graduated from The University of Hong Kong in 2011 with a BSc (Hons) in statistics and undertook a PhD in pharmacoepidemiology in 2013-2017 at the same university to investigate the safety and effectiveness of direct oral anticoagulants. The results of her PhD were published in JAMA, Gastroenterology, Heart Rhythm, and Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis. During her post-doc training at UCL she used UK electronic health records to investigate the potential for repurposing trazodone to prevent dementia, of which the findings were

published in PLoS Medicine. In 2019, she was appointed to a lectureship at UCL School of Pharmacy where she continues her research to investigate the effects of medicines used in cardiovascular diseases and mental health.

Jenni Ilomaki, Monash University, Australia



Jenni graduated with a Master of Science (Pharmacy) in 2004. In 2000, Jenni was instrumental in establishing Finland's first drug information centre KLIK. In 2006-2007, Jenni was a visiting scholar at the University of Florida Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy.

Jenni then returned to Finland and undertook a PhD in alcohol epidemiology at the Department of Public Health and Clinical Nutrition at the University of Eastern Finland. During her PhD Jenni published the first application of a marginal structural model in alcohol epidemiology. For this landmark work the Finnish Epidemiological Society named Jenni the Young Epidemiologist of the Year 2011. The Finnish Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Research recognised Jenni's work by awarding her the Best Thesis in Pharmaceutical Sciences 2010-2011. Jenni was Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of South Australia from 2011-2014, during which time she analysed data and prepared reports on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs and NPS MedicineWise. Jenni has published more than 80 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and obtained AUD \$2.5 million in grant funding. Jenni is the Chair of the Pharmacoepidemiology Special Interest Group of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT).

Edward Lai, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan



Dr. Edward Lai is an Assistant Professor for School of Pharmacy, Institute of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan. His research interests include drug safety, comparative effectiveness and international multi-databases pharmacoepidemiologic studies. He was a chair of the Asian Pharmacoepidemiology Network, and currently works on international projects for psychiatric medications, biologic agents as well as oncologic treatments. He receives governmental grants for developing pharmacoepidemiologic and analytic methods to protect data privacy for multiple databases studies. He is also working with Taiwan Drug Relief Foundation to improve drug safety, signal detection and post-marketing surveillance using electronic healthcare databases.