

**MEDIA RELEASE – Monday June 4th 2007**

**ASMR NSW Scientific Meeting  
MONDAY JUNE 4 2007  
Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo**

**PLENARY SPEAKER**

**Professor Peter Schofield**, Executive Director and CEO of the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute and Professor of Medicine at the University of NSW

**“Science, politics and ethics: insights from the Lockhart Review”**

Professor Schofield, whose research interests focus on genes which lead to mental illness and dementia, was one of six members appointed by Health Minister Tony Abbott to Judge John Lockhart's Legislation Review Committee examining the "Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002" and the "Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002". The recommendations of the Lockhart Review were adopted by the Federal Government in late 2006. *Professor Schofield will be available for interview.*

**Antioxidants and Asthma**

Asthma sufferers on a low antioxidant diet experience worsening symptoms. Both tomato juice and tomato extract supplementation reversed this trend.

*Lisa Wood, Respiratory & Sleep Medicine, Hunter Medical Research Institute*

**Avocados and Cancer**

A plant toxin, Persin, extracted from avocados has been shown to cause cell death in breast cancer cells... it can also enhance the effect of the breast cancer therapeutic, Tamoxifen.

*Caroline Roberts, Garvan Institute of Medical Research*

**Supercharged stem cells!**

Understanding the genetics of cancer and using it! This study looks at ways to 'supercharge' stem cells for transplantation to leukaemia patients, using the intrinsic blood vessel forming capabilities which cancer exhibits. *R. Knight, Prince of Wales Clinical School, University of New South Wales*

**Directing traffic!**

Artery wall cells react quickly to various changes in circulating blood. These responses are important for controlling blood pressure, new blood vessel growth and artery wall repair. Do specific areas on cell surfaces sense changes and direct cell's response and function? *Macarena Rodriguez, Centre for Vascular Research, University of New South Wales and Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney,*

**The winner of the prestigious UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY MEDAL will be announced at the conclusion of the Meeting**

ABSTRACTS AVAILABLE -INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

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