

### ASMR Medical Research Week®

Media Alert – June 9, 2006

Teams of young medical researchers will visit regional Vic Schools June 13 -15

### GEELONG, DERRINALLUM, BALLARAT, BROADFORD, BENALLA, YARRAWONGA, WANGARATTA, BAIRNSDALE, SALE, SOUTH GIPPSLAND, KYNETON

16 young scientists visit regional schools in Victoria, urging students to consider a career in medical research. These dedicated researchers will talk about their own work and the contribution it can make to the health and well being of all Australians.

#### Our Speakers Include:

- **Cathryn Hogarth**, PhD student, Monash Institute of Medical Research, Centre for Molecular Endocrinology. Cathryn's research is focused on how proteins get shuttled around the cell. She is a former Wangaratta student.
- **Daniella Brasacchio**, PhD student, Baker Heart Research Institute, studies how high blood sugar levels can affect the long term development of these diabetic complications, such as heart disease.
- **Natalie Hannan**, PhD student, Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research, is interested in the early stages of human pregnancy in particular embryo implantation with a focus on infertility.
- **Marina Alexander**, PhD student, University of Melbourne. Investigating how HIV makes viral proteins that allow it to infect the body.
- **Senem Eren**, PhD student, psychologist and research coordinator at Murdoch Childrens Research Institute looks at cognitive and emotional difficulties of children and adolescents after head injury.
- **Alex Umbers**, research assistant, Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research, uses gene technology to understand the reproductive system.
- **Faten Zaibak**, post-doctoral fellow, Stem Cell Research Laboratory, University of Melbourne looks at cord blood (blood left behind in the placenta and umbilical cord after birth) to determine if stem cells from cord blood could be used to treat inherited diseases such as cystic fibrosis.
- **Adam Bilney**, mechanical design engineer, Baker Heart Research Institute, specializes in the design and manufacture of devices for use in heart surgery.
- **Jenny Chow**, PhD student, Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research. Jenny is researching the effect of the female hormone 'estrogen' and the way our bodies process fat.

For more information or to speak to the researchers, please contact Nicola Smith (0412 101 871) or Shahan Campbell (043 311 3454). High resolution photographs are available upon request.

Full Program available from [www.asmr.org.au/media/index.html](http://www.asmr.org.au/media/index.html)



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