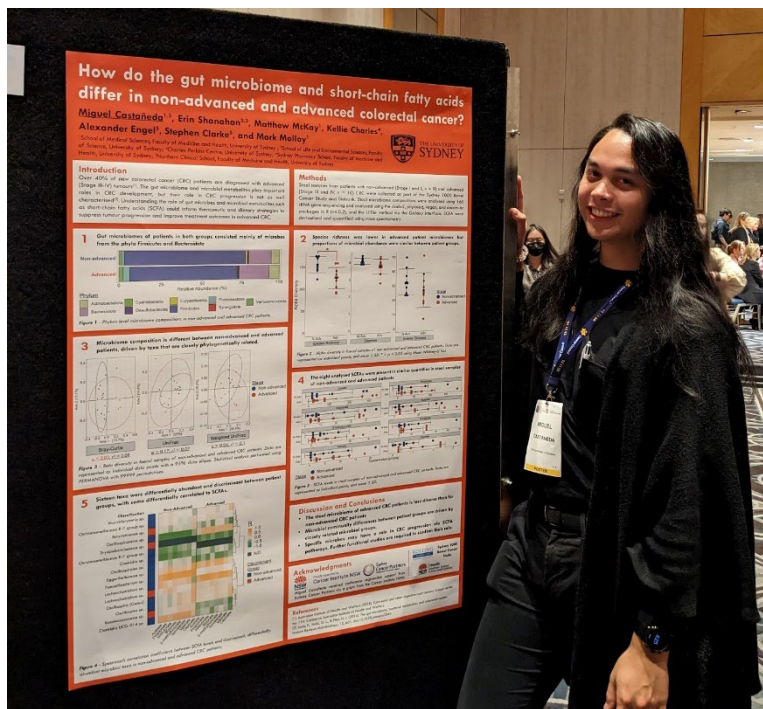


Name: Miguel Castañeda

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Full Reference: Castañeda M., Shanahan E., McKay M., Charles K., Engel A., Clarke S. & Molloy M.
How do the gut microbiome and short-chain fatty acids differ in non-advanced and advanced colorectal cancer?

Presentation Type: Poster



Miguel Castañeda with his poster at NSW Cancer Conference 2022

First of all, I'd like to express my thanks and gratitude for supporting my conference registration. Most of my PhD candidature has been concurrent with the pandemic, so NSWCC2022 was my very first conference. I can confidently say that the experience has enriched my appreciation and understanding for the work we do as cancer researchers, both personally and professionally.

There are two main highlights of the conference that I feel have resonated with me the most. The first of these was the plenary presentation by Professor Jacob George outlining his research in hepatocellular carcinoma. As a 'basic scientist', I find that I am often so focused on cells, mouse

models and benchtop work that it's easy to forget that cancer research extends far beyond what happens in the laboratory. Professor George's presentation, as well as seeing other poster presentations from the fields of psycho-oncology and public health, have reminded me to view cancer research in a holistic sense – that while we all work in different fields of cancer research, what we do in our respective fields all coalesce to have real impacts on real people. My second highlight was the poster sessions – having never been to a conference before, I was initially a bit anxious about what the poster session would entail. However, being in a room with so many like-minded people all working in the same field, I found it easy to have discussions with other people about our research and our experiences. This was a new experience for me and I'm now looking forward to my next opportunity to present my research in a similar setting.

Overall, I've had a brilliant time at NSWCC2022. Thank you again for supporting my conference registration, and I'm very much looking forward to NSWCC2023!