NSW Cancer Research Education

Opportunities for Proteomics in Cancer Research

Statewide Seminar Series 2026
Tuesday 17 February, 12.30 - 1.30 pm



Dr Rebecca Poulos

Group Leader, Multi-Omics in Childhood Cancer, CMRI



Dr Bhavna Padhye

Paediatric Oncologist, Children's Hospital at Westmead



Dr Liz Connolly

Oncology Research Fellow, CMRI



Dr Adel Aref

Senior Researcher, ProCan Oncology, CMRI

17 FEB 2026 | **12:30 PM – 1:30 PM** | **Online Webinar**

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The Translational Cancer Research Capacity Building Grants are supported by the Cancer Institute NSW

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NSW Regional Cancer Research Network

Maridulu Budyari Gumal

Cancer Clinical Academic Group

Session Information

This one-hour statewide virtual seminar will explore mass spectrometry-based proteomics as a cutting-edge frontier in cancer research. Participants will learn how proteomic data can transform patient care by enabling more precise risk stratification, treatment selection, and improved disease classification. Led by leading experts in translational cancer proteomics, the session is designed to be accessible and relevant to clinicians, researchers, and allied health professionals.

Speakers



Dr Rebecca Poulos is Group Leader of the Multi-Omics in Childhood Cancer lab at the Children's Medical Research Institute. Also a Sydney Cancer Partners Translational Partners Fellow, she leads collaborative projects that will introduce proteomics into the paediatric cancer clinic to improve risk stratification and treatment optimisation. In her presentation, Dr Poulos will deliver an overview of how mass spectrometry-based proteomics can be integrated into cancer research and ultimately the oncology clinic.



Dr Bhavna Padhye is a Senior Staff Specialist and Paediatric Oncologist at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. She is Co-Lead of the Cancer Genetic Risk Program at CHW and Clinical Lead of the Molecular Genomics team at the Children's Cancer Research Unit (CCRU). She is a Sydney Cancer Partners Translational Partners Fellow where she is involved in proteomics-based research aimed at improving paediatric cancer diagnostics and treatment stratification, particularly for cancers with poor prognosis.



Dr Liz Connolly is a sarcoma medical oncologist and researcher who has recently completed doctoral research focused on proteomic approaches to addressing unmet clinical needs in sarcoma. She is currently an Oncology research fellow at CMRI and Medical oncologist at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. In her presentation, Dr Connolly will be describing her multi-cohort analyses using proteomics to inform the diagnosis and prognosis of leiomyosarcoma.



Dr Adel Aref is a clinician–scientist and Senior Researcher leading the ProCan® Oncology team at the Children's Medical Research Institute, with a conjoint academic appointment at the University of Sydney. He trained as a medical oncologist (MBBCh/MSc Clinical Oncology - Egypt), he holds a PhD in Medicine from the University of Adelaide (AUS) and a Master's degree in Clinical Trials Methodology from University College London (UK). In his presentation, he will be presenting the development and validation of a proteomics-based prognostic risk score for recurrence prediction in stage III colon cancer using three independent patient cohorts.

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