Professor Garry Jennings AO
Executive Director, Sydney Health Partners

Professor Garry Jennings AO is the Executive Director of Sydney Health Partners and has extensive experience in health and medical research, specialising in cardiology. He served as the Director of Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in Melbourne for 14 years and most recently as the Interim CEO of the National Heart Foundation. He has had a long association with the National Heart Foundation as a former Board Member and Chair of its Cardiovascular Health Advisory Committee.

As a leading cardiologist, Professor Jennings has also had a long career in clinical practice including as the Director of Cardiology at The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne. Professor Jennings also played a key role in the transformation of The Alfred campus as Foundation Chair of the Alfred Medical Research and Education precinct. As a researcher, his interests include the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease.

Professor Jennings was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2013 for his service to medical research and the prevention and control of cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes.

Mr Paul McClintock AO
Chair, Sydney Health Partners

Paul McClintock AO has vast experience in both the public and private sectors with a strong interest in health organisations. He is currently Chair of Myer Holdings. From July 2000 to March 2003 Mr McClintock served as the Secretary to Cabinet and head of the Cabinet Policy Unit reporting directly to the Prime Minister, and he is currently national President of the Committee for Economic Development of Australia. In the health sector, he is an honorary fellow of the Sydney Medical School and the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research and holds ongoing leadership roles in St Vincent’s Health Australia, I-MED and The George Institute.
Dr Michael Brydon
Chief Executive, Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network

Dr Michael Brydon was permanently appointed to the role of Chief Executive of the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network in July 2016, having previously served as the Acting Chief Executive and Director of Clinical Operations.

Prior to the Network forming, Dr Brydon worked at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick for 27 years. In the last two decades, he has established a wide network of personal partnerships, predominantly in the child health environment and gained significant expertise in clinical management and medical administration. Ever since entering paediatrics, Michael has advocated for children and their families, highlighting the differences in their needs and ensuring a fair allocation of resources to paediatrics.

Professor Arthur Conigrave
Dean of Sydney Medical School, The University of Sydney

Professor Arthur Conigrave was appointed Dean of Sydney Medical School in 2017. Prior to this appointment, Professor Conigrave held a number of leadership roles including Acting Dean in 2016, Deputy Dean and Associate Dean (Finance & Administration) from 2011, and Head of the School of Molecular Bioscience from 2007-10. Professor Conigrave is an Endocrinologist specialising in the clinical management of patients with metabolic bone disease (including osteoporosis and disorders of calcium metabolism), and an internationally recognised researcher in molecular endocrinology.

He also serves as a Director of the Centenary Institute and the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research.

Professor Carol Armour
Executive Director, The Woolcock Institute

Carol Armour is the Executive Director of the Woolcock Institute and Professor of Pharmacology and Associate Dean Research (Career Development), Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. She has worked in the area of asthma research at a basic scientific and clinical level. Her investigations span the breadth of asthma research from the cellular mechanisms to the translation of new ways to treat asthma within the health system. She is on the Australian Respiratory Council, The National Asthma Council and has chaired the National Asthma Monitoring Advisory Committee, worked on the National Therapeutic Guidelines and the Australian Medicines Handbook. She has been a member of the NHMRC Research Committee (Chair of the Training Awards). She was Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research, at the University of Sydney, from 2006-2009. She has been made a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society for her services to the profession, and she was awarded the Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA) medal for research in 2007. Carol recently took up the MRI representative role on the Sydney Health Partners (SHP) Governing Council and co-leads the most recent clinical stream, Respiratory within SHP (with Professor Jennifer Alison).
Mr Danny O’Connor
Chief Executive, Western Sydney Local Health District

Danny was appointed chief executive of the Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) in January 2011. He believes the primary purpose of healthcare is to improve people’s lives. Central to success is a strong partnership with consumers in continually improving the services we provide. Likewise, strong partnership is required between science and practice to ensure the continuous evolution of best practice in clinical care and population health programs.

Danny currently serves on the Boards of the Western Sydney Local Health District Board (ex-officio), Westmead Millennium Institute, NSW HealthShare, Westmead Medical Research Foundation, WentWest Primary Health Network.

Forum MC

Professor Carol Pollock
The University of Sydney

Carol Pollock is an academic nephrologist and renal transplant physician with over 290 publications in basic research and clinical medicine. She is an inaugural Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (2015), was conferred a Vice Chancellors Award for Excellence in Research Supervision (2012) and recognised as a ‘Distinguished Professor’ by the University of Sydney (2012). She was the 2014 recipient of the Ministerial Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Research. She was Scientific Chairman of the 2013 World Congress of Nephrology. She is Chair of the NSW Cardiovascular Research Network and Chairs the Research Advisory Committee of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology. Health leadership roles include inaugural Chair of the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation, immediate past Chair of the Clinical Excellence Commission, remaining as a director of both organisations till April 2016. She was Chair of the Northern Sydney Local Health District Board since its inception in 2011 till 2016 and since 2016 was Director and then Chair of the NSW Bureau of Health Information. She is a current Director of Kidney Health Australia and Chairs the International Society of Nephrology Meetings committee, responsible for delivering both research and educational meetings and policy forums across the globe.
The Hon. Greg Hunt MP
Minister for Health, Minister for Sport

In January 2017, Greg was appointed Minister for Health and Sport. Prior to this appointment he was Minister for the Environment between (2013 to July 2016), and Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science (2016). He was Shadow Minister in the Environment portfolio between 2007 and 2013.

As Environment Minister, Greg counts his key achievements as establishing Australia’s successful Emissions Reduction Fund, developing the Great Barrier Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan and $1 billion Reef Fund. In 2016 he was selected as the inaugural Best Minister in the World recipient at the World Government Summit.

Greg has always had a strong connection with the health system and both his mother and wife worked as nurses. Greg is using his background in the Industry, Innovation and Science portfolio to build on Australia’s track record for medical breakthroughs, supporting the translation of what is done in the laboratory into better healthcare for patients. Mental health is an issue that is particularly important to Greg. He is a strong advocate for greater understanding and community awareness, and is working to ensure we have the necessary resources to help deal with this very important issue.

Dr Antonio Penna
Director, NSW Office of Health and Medical Research

“Where to Now? Health and Medical Research News”

Dr Antonio Penna is the Executive Director of the Office for Health and Medical Research, Ministry of Health. Dr Penna has extensive experience in clinical research specialising in paediatric pharmacology. He has served as the Chief Executive of the Children’s Hospital at Westmead. During this period he has been an outstanding contributor to children’s health.

As Executive Director of Office for Health and Medical Research, Dr Penna exemplifies the collaborative spirit, working with stakeholders across the health and medical research sector to establish NSW as a global hub for research excellence.

Dr Penna was the 2010 recipient of the Children’s Healthcare Australasia (CHA) Medal of Distinction.
Dr Judith Trotman
Concord Hospital

“Clinical Trials & Launch of ClinTrial Refer App”

Download the SHP ClinTrial Refer App from the iTunes App Store or Google Play

Judith Trotman trained in Auckland, Sydney and France. She is the Director, Concord Haematology Clinical Research Unit and co-Chair, SHP Clinical Trials Stream. She is Chair of the Australasian Leukaemia Lymphoma Group (ALLG) Low Grade Lymphoma group and ALLG PI for several international lymphoma trials. Dr Trotman demonstrated the predictive power of PET assessment for Follicular Lymphoma (successfully applying for an MBS listing in 2017) and is an author of the international guidelines in staging and response assessment of lymphoma. Committed to cross-centre collaboration in trials recruitment, Dr Trotman is co-inventor of ClinTrial Refer – the free App used to increase patient cross-referral across 20+ trial portfolios.

Dr Gustavo Machado
The University of Sydney

“Back Pain Management”

Gustavo is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the School of Public Health, Sydney Medical School. His research focuses on the effectiveness of contemporary interventions for low back pain. He is also interested in health services and translational research, currently collaborating with Sydney Health Partners on the implementation of a model of care for acute low back pain in emergency departments. Gustavo is an associate member of the Australia & New Zealand Musculoskeletal (ANZMUSC) Clinical Trials Network and an invited member of a low back pain guideline development committee within the European Pain Federation (EFIC).

Ms Anna Janssen, The University of Sydney

“The Turning Point Project”

Anna Janssen is employed as a Health Technologist in the Research in Implementation Science and eHealth Group, within the Faculty of Health Sciences. In this role she has been involved in a number of eHealth research projects, including investigating methods for engaging health professionals in online forums, and exploring the impact of technology on oncology MDTs in Western Sydney. She is currently supporting a research project investigate the impact of a patient portal on patients, carers and hospital staff in a paediatric hospital in Sydney. She is also enrolled asis a PhD candidate within Sydney Medical School at the University of Sydney. Her PhD is focused on the use of digital games in health education.
Professor Jonathan Morris
The University of Sydney & Northern Sydney Local Health District

“Discovering New Knowledge from our Data”

Professor Jonathan Morris is co lead of the Informatics cross cutting theme of Sydney Health Partners. His research has informed pregnancy and newborn best practice through clinical trial and population health research. He is a keen proponent of enabling new approaches to appropriate data sharing so as to improve individual patient care, health service effectiveness and augment research.

Ms Candice Kielly – Carroll
The University of Sydney

“Deriving the value of EHR; Using Data to Reduce Variation in Cancer Care”

Candice is a research officer of the Research in Implementation Science and eHealth Group (RISe) at the University of Sydney. Following Candice's post-graduate degree in public health policy, she has continued to pursue her passion in oncology service development. Candice currently manages the Cancer Data Innovation Project for the Sydney West Translational Cancer Research Centre. Candice also conducts health services research for state and federal governments in best-practice healthcare measurement and digitisation.

Professor Robyn Jamieson
University of Sydney, Sydney Children's Hospitals Network & Children's Medical Research Institute

“Genomic Medicine (GEM) Translation”

Professor Robyn Jamieson is the Head, Discipline of Genetic Medicine, University of Sydney, and Director of the Western Sydney Genetics Program, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network. She leads the Eye Genetics Research Unit at the Children’s Medical Research Institute, Sydney Children’s Hospital Network and Save Sight Institute, University of Sydney. She also heads Eye Genetic Clinics at the Sydney Children’s Hospital Network, and the Westmead Adult Hospital, Sydney. Her team’s work has led to establishment of genomic approaches for genetic diagnoses in Australia, especially of the eye, and development of animal and cell-based systems for functional understanding of novel disease genes and variants, and pathways to new genetic therapies.
Translational Research Projects Speakers

Professor Sarah Hilmer
Kolling Institute, Royal North Shore Hospital and University of Sydney

“Reducing Inappropriate Polypharmacy in Older Inpatients”

Sarah Hilmer is head of the Department of Clinical Pharmacology and a Senior Staff Specialist in Aged Care at Royal North Shore Hospital, and a conjoint Professor of Geriatric Pharmacology, Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. She leads a program of research in basic and clinical geriatric pharmacology at the Kolling Institute of Medical Research. Her clinical, teaching, research and policy roles all aim to improve safe and effective use of medicines, particularly for frail older people and older people with dementia.

Professor Geoff McCaughan
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney Local Health District

“Maximising cures for HCV in marginalised communities”

Professor McCaughan is a physician scientist in the fields of Liver Transplantation, Liver disease and Liver pathobiology. At a clinical level he is involved in clinical studies in Liver Transplantation, HCC, End Stage Liver Disease, HBV and HCV infection. He has had a leadership role in the development and implementation of policy in NSW re HBV and HCV strategies. In this role he has previously chaired the NSW DOH Ministerial Hepatitis Committee, is currently a member of NSW Health Hepatitis Implementation Committee and Chair of the NSW ACI Hepatitis Working Group. Within SLHD he chairs the SLHD Hepatitis Committee and is the clinical Director of Gastroenterology and Liver Services.

Professor Clara Chow
The University of Sydney & Westmead Hospital

“Rapid Access Cardiology - New Models of Care”

Professor Clara Chow is a clinician-scientist, Professor of Medicine at the University of Sydney and Clinical Lead Community Based Cardiac Services at Westmead Hospital. Her research program focuses on cardiovascular disease prevention and the goal of identifying and evaluating simple and scalable strategies to enable this. She led the TEXT ME (Tobacco Exercise and diet MESSages) RCT (JAMA. 2015;314(12):1255-1263) that won ‘The most impactful publications in 2015, Award from Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health Council of the American Heart Association and recently the TextCare team won the 2016 Google Impact Challenge - which supports non-profit innovators using technology to tackle the world's biggest social challenges. www.text-me.net
Professor David Hunter
The University of Sydney
“OAChangetMap: Moving from best practice models of osteoarthritis care to system level implementation and impact”

Professor Hunter is a rheumatology clinician researcher whose main research focus is clinical and translational research in osteoarthritis (OA). He is the Florence and Cope Chair of Rheumatology and Professor of Medicine at University of Sydney, Chair of the Institute of Bone and Joint Research and Staff Specialist at Royal North Shore Hospital. He is ranked as the leading expert in the world on osteoarthritis on expertscape.com and is the section editor for UpToDate osteoarthritis. His research is focused on a number of key elements in OA including (but not limited to) the epidemiology of osteoarthritis, the application of imaging to better understand structure and function with application to both epidemiologic research and clinical trials, novel therapies in disease management and health service system delivery of chronic disease management. He is an editor for leading international journals in his field, has authored books on osteoarthritis and has over 400 publications in peer reviewed journals.

Ms Dinny Graham
The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, The University of Sydney
‘PROSPER – delivering affordable genomic testing for improved cancer outcomes in disadvantaged Australian populations’

Dinny Graham completed her PhD in Medicine, University of Sydney, before travelling to the University of Colorado, USA, as a NH&MRC CJ Martin fellow, to work with Professor Kathryn Horwitz, a pioneer in hormone receptor research in breast cancer, studying transcriptional coregulators in endocrine resistance. She returned to join Professor Christine Clarke in the Breast Cancer Division, Westmead Institute for Medical Research, establishing new programs in genomic research. She is now the scientific lead of Translational Breast Cancer Genomics. Her research focuses on mechanisms of transcriptional regulation in breast cancer and the translation of novel signatures to affordable clinical tools.