

Presenter: DR MONIQUE RYAN

Title: Advances in the treatment of neuromuscular disorders of childhood

Neuromuscular disorders affect 200 000 Australians and are responsible for 1/3 of all referrals to paediatric neurology clinics. These conditions can present at any point from birth to adulthood and often cause significant morbidity and mortality. Improved genetic characterisation of these disorders has in recent years been accompanied by a push to more definitive treatments, with establishment of several international consortia aimed at better understanding of their natural history and optimal management. Monique will discuss recent advances in the management of the most common neuromuscular disorders of childhood and the future for patients with these conditions.

Monique Ryan is a paediatric neurologist in the RCH Children's Neurosciences Centre, where she performs peripheral neurophysiologic testing and coordinates the neuromuscular clinical research program and multidisciplinary Neuromuscular Clinic. Her research interests include natural history studies of paediatric neuropathies and clinical trials of new therapies for muscle diseases, neuropathies and myasthenic syndromes of childhood. She is a member of several international neuromuscular research consortia and a board member of CINRG and the TREAT-NMD therapeutic advisory committee.

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