

Presenter: DR TOM CONNELL AND PROFESSOR NIGEL CURTIS

Title: TB OR NOT TB? NOVEL APPROACHES TO TACKLING THE CHALLENGE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN CHILDREN

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major challenge worldwide. Each year there are 9 million new cases of active TB, resulting in 2 million deaths, including over 400,000 in children. Better methods to diagnosis TB have been identified as a key priority by the WHO. The TB research group in the MCRI Infectious Diseases & Microbiology Group, led by Professor Nigel Curtis, together with international collaborators, has led the way in investigating the use of novel immune-based methods to diagnose latent TB infection and active TB disease in children. This talk will provide an overview of the current state of diagnostics for TB and present the work that formed the basis of Dr Tom Connell's PhD.

Nigel Curtis is Professor of Paediatric Infectious Diseases in The University of Melbourne, Head of the Infectious Diseases Unit in the Department of General Medicine at RCH and Leader of the Infectious Diseases & Microbiology Group at the MCRI.

Tom Connell is an Infectious Diseases Physician and General Paediatrician in the Department of General Medicine at RCH and a Post Doctoral Research Fellow in the Infectious Diseases & Microbiology Group at the MCRI.

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