

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



Nanoscale Organisation
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A cyclic pentapeptide-mediated double-hit strategy for the treatment of prostate cancer. Could it be helpful for other cancers too?

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Abstract. Prostate cancer (PCa) is the most common cancer in men in Australia with around 20,000 new cases diagnosed each year. Despite substantial success in improving survival, 3,500 Australian men each year still die from PCa with this number increasing due to the aging of our population. These statistics emphasize the need for improved and safer therapies that can rapidly be translated to the clinic to reduce mortality for men with disease recurrence. This presentation will review our efforts to discover, develop and trial a new experimental medication for patients with advanced disease, recent work exploring the mechanism of action of this experimental medicine in prostate cancer and discuss the potential of these findings to assist in the treatment of two other cancers, hepatocellular carcinoma and glioblastoma.

Profile. Kieran trained in Biochemistry and Chemistry at Massey University, New Zealand before undertaking his PhD in genetics at the ANU in the days when cloning and sequencing a few thousand base pairs of DNA was cutting edge technology. He has devoted the bulk of his scientific career to studying the biology of phospholipase A₂ enzymes and their role in inflammation and cancer. Kieran has developed collaborative, multidisciplinary approaches to understanding the innate lipid-mediated inflammatory response in both acute and chronic human disease across several fields of medical research. These studies, spanning both basic and clinical research, have contributed to the translation of early basic research findings towards improved health outcomes. Examples include the successful application of basic and clinical biochemistry and molecular biology to the identification of sPLA₂ (hGIIA) as a possible drug target and biomarker in sepsis, arthritis, coronary artery disease, reperfusion injury and prostate cancer, structure-based drug design, *in vitro* cell biology and *in vivo* pharmacology in the discovery, development and testing of novel lead compounds targeting hGIIA, pharmaceutical and formulation science in the development of an orally active medicine (c2) for the treatment of advanced prostate cancer and a first-in man clinical trial of c2 in patients with advanced prostate cancer establishing oral absorption and absence of side effects.

Staff and students at all levels are welcome to attend.

Venue and Time:

This talk will be held on Thursday 19 November at 2 pm via **ZOOM**

Meeting URL: <https://uws.zoom.us/j/83500064329>

Meeting ID: 835 0006 4329

Password: 126567

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