

Stars Scientific Symposium

This annual scientific symposium showcases the most recent research findings in the fields of women's and infants' health.

The focus of the 2024 Stars Scientific Symposium is *Timing is Everything*.

We invite you to join us as we present and discuss the latest discoveries and advances in pregnancy care and women's health.

Featuring visiting professor, Professor Mark Evans (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York) and four senior researchers, Dr Haruo Usuda, Dr Zoe Bradfield, Dr Jonathan Davis and Dr Mathias Epee-Bekima.

Emerging Researchers showcases WA's top up-and-coming medical researchers, reviewing their latest discoveries in short, sharp presentations relating to neonatology, obstetrics and fetal development.

Please see full event programs inside.

Registration



Book online at
www.wirf.com.au/stars2024

2024 Stars Scientific Symposium

Date: Friday 23rd August 2024, 12pm to 7pm.

Venue: UWA Club, University of Western Australia, Crawley

Cost: \$100 / Students \$85

(inc presentations, lunch, afternoon tea and cocktail hour)

Thank You

The Women and Infants Research Foundation wishes to thank and acknowledge Symposium exhibitors and sponsors:

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Women and Infants Research Foundation

A: Carson House, King Edward Memorial Hospital
374 Bagot Road, Subiaco, WA 6008

T: 08 6458 1437 **E:** info@wirf.com.au

W: www.wirf.com.au



2024 Stars
Scientific Symposium:
Timing is Everything.

Friday 23rd August 2024



women & infants
research foundation

Stars Scientific Symposium

12.00pm Registration and Lunch

1.00pm Symposium Opening

Professor Matt Kemp

Chief Scientist, WIRF

Associate Professor, National University of Singapore

1.05pm Preterm Birth Panel Discussion

Timely and active consumer engagement in research – the gold standard

Ms Laurene Aydon and Ms Amy Rovira

Facilitated by Mrs Joanne Beedie

1.30pm Emerging Researchers

Dr Sean Carter (National University of Singapore/
King Edward Memorial Hospital)

*Antenatal steroids elicit neurodegenerative changes in fetal sheep
brains independent of lung maturation*

Dr Dimple Goel (University of Western Australia)

Keep the chin-up: neonatal sleep disordered breathing

Dr Sara Morris (King Edward Memorial Hospital)

Insights into term breech birth at a tertiary maternity unit

Dr Chandra Rath (University of Western Australia)

*Effect of probiotic dose escalation on gut microbiota and clinical
outcomes in preterm infants*

2.50pm Emerging Researchers Q&A

Facilitated by **Dr Mathias Epee-Bekima**

3.00pm Tea and Coffee Break

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POINTS

ACM approved attracting 4.5 hours for full attendance

RANZCOG approved attracting 4.5 hours.



Stars Scientific Symposium

3.30pm Senior Researchers

Dr Haruo Usuda (WIRF/ University of Western Australia)

Artificial placenta model of hypoxia

Dr Zoe Bradfield (Curtin University)

Birthing in MyTIME: A Clinical Trial to address rising induction rates

Dr Jonathan Davis (Child and Adolescent Health Service)

Does it matter where preterm babies are born in Western Australia?

Dr Mathias Epee-Bekima (King Edward Memorial Hospital)

Placenta accreta spectrum: The ticking bomb



Keynote presentation

4.40pm Professor Mark Evans

(Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai at New York City)

Re-engineering electronic fetal monitoring

5.00pm Moderated Q&A

**Prof Evans, Dr Usuda, Dr Bradfield, Dr Davis, Dr Epee-Bekima
and Mrs Beedie**

Facilitated by **Dr Trish Woods**

6.00pm WIRF 2024 Research Acceleration Awards Announcement and Close

Mr Matt Bass and Prof Matt Kemp

6.10pm Cocktail Hour, Canapés and Conversation

7.00pm Close



Visiting Professor

Professor Mark Evans

Professor Evans is American boarded in both Obstetrics & Gynecology and Medical Genetics. He is Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai (NY) and National University of Singapore and President of the Fetal Medicine Foundation of America.

Prof Evans has many firsts to his name, including: in utero stem cell transplant to cure immunodeficiency; pharmacologic prevention of a birth defect (CAH); in utero fetal muscle biopsy for DM1; fetal reduction for multiples; and open fetal surgery for diaphragmatic hernia (team member).



Dr Haruo Usuda

Dr Haruo Usuda worked as a paediatric physician and neonatologist between 2007 and 2016 in the NICU in Japan. In 2016, WIRF recruited him to Perth to lead and develop his artificial placenta technology. Awarded his PhD in 2021, Haruo was more recently awarded a prestigious NHMRC investigator grant based on his artificial placenta system development.



Dr Zoe Bradfield

Dr Zoe Bradfield is an Associate Professor of Midwifery with a joint appointment between Curtin University and the Women and Newborn Health Service in Western Australia. She also holds an adjunct appointment at UWA, Monash University and the Burnet Institute in Victoria. Her research focuses on clinical care and health systems innovations to improve outcomes for women, their families, and society. Her translational and transformational programs have received several high-impact awards and attracted over \$11M in research funding. Zoe is the President of the Australian College of Midwives, the peak professional body for midwifery in Australia.



Dr Jonathan Davis

Dr Jonathan Davis undertook his training in neonatology in Belfast and Brisbane before working as a consultant in Bristol. He moved to Perth and became medical director of the Newborn Emergency Transport Service in 2016. He has research interest in neonatal transport medicine and how best to transport and improve the outcome for babies who need to be transported soon after birth especially born preterm and those with Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy.



Dr Mathias Epee-Bekima

Dr Mathias Epee leads the placenta accreta service at KEMH. His clinical expertise includes complex benign gynaecology, high risk surgical obstetrics and fertility optimisation. Mat has a reasonable knowledge of various health systems and supports WA country hospitals. He is passionate about improving real clinical outcomes via research, education, and system changes, and has contributed to the training of many generations of amazing doctors, midwives, and nurses in four countries.

