## **Beyond Insulin:** Innovative research in T1D prevention and cure



Speaker's name: A/Prof Emma Hamilton-Williams Seminar date: Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 1-2pm AEST Seminar title: Role of gut microbiota in type 1 diabetes Zoom connection details: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5056623028</u>

About the speaker: Associate Professor Emma Hamilton-Williams' career focuses on understanding



immune tolerance is disrupted leading to the development of the autoimmune disease type 1 diabetes. She received her PhD from the Australian National University and trained as a postdoctoral fellow in Germany and the USA. In 2012 she started a laboratory at the Frazer Institute, University of Queensland with funding from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and NHMRC grants. Currently an Associate Professor, her laboratory focuses on understanding the role of the gut microbiota as a potential trigger or therapy for type 1 diabetes.

**Brief outline of seminar content:** The gut microbiota is known to be altered in individuals with and before the onset of type 1 diabetes. It is believed that a dysfunctional microbiota during early childhood may contribute to reduced gut barrier function, increased inflammation and disrupted mucosal tolerance contributing to promotion of islet autoimmunity and type 1 diabetes. A/Prof Hamilton-Williams will discuss results from a clinical trial that aimed to restore a 'healthy' gut microbiota in adults with type 1 diabetes using a specialised prebiotic dietary supplement and mechanistic studies that show the microbiota changes could impact progression of autoimmunity.

For more information about the seminar series, please contact Michelle So mso@svi.edu.au

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