

Molecular Diagnostics SIG

Date: Friday 10 October 2025

Venue: Ernest & Marion Davis Lecture Theatre, Auckland City Hospital, Grafton, Auckland



DRAFT PROGRAMME (as of 5/9/25)		
9.00	Registration with arrival, tea and coffee	
9.30	Welcome to Molecular Diagnostics SIG	Pippa Grainger/Roberto Mazzaschi. Auckland
Time approx	GENEXUS validation	Chloe Pearson LabPlus Auckland
Time approx	Histopathology talk	Dr. Mike Watson LabPlus Auckland
10.30	Morning tea	
20 mins	Grafton Clinical Genomics welcomes the opportunity to work with scientists and clinicians across Aotearoa	Jason Copedo Technical Manager – Grafton Clinical Genomics. University of Auckland
40 mins	leveraging NGS/Cryo-Electron Microscopy and molecular dynamics to engineer viruses for drug deliver in solid tumours	Shakeel Waqqar LabPlus Auckland
Time approx	Monitoring of rare BCR::ABL1 patients with ddPCR	Geraldine Duncan, PhD
Time approx	Analytical Validation Of Cxbladder Triage PLUS	Kimberley Hughes
12.30	Lunch	
Time approx	In house presentation	Toni Darling TBC
Time approx	Why Chromosome analysis, FISH and Micro array are equally important tools in genetic disorders	Tareeqanwar Mohammed LabPlus Auckland
Time approx		Wellington Genetics laboratory
Time approx		Molecular Genetics, LabPlus Auckland
15.	Afternoon Tea	
30 mins	Characterising a panel of clinical and environmental Mycobacterium chimaera isolates	Siouxsie Wiles, Associate Professor, University of Auckland
Time approx	TBC	Dr Meik Dilcher National Measles and Rubella Laboratory (NMRL) Canterbury Health Laboratories/Te Waipounamu/Waitaha Canterbury
20 mins	Supporting hepatitis C elimination with dried blood spot testing	Gary McAuliffe LabPlus Auckland
Time approx	Microbiology – Lessons learnt	TBC Microbiology dept. ADHB.
20 mins	Minion – Long read sequencing	Fahimeh Rahnema LabPlus Auckland
16.45	Prizes. End.	

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