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**Precision in Partnership: Maximising research impact through collaboration with Government**

The **NSW Health Research and Innovation Strategy** plays a crucial role in guiding the efforts of the **Office for Health and Medical Research (OHMR)**. This strategy sets the direction for the future and highlights the important role NSW Health plays in driving research and innovation to improve health outcomes.

Ther OHMR supports this strategy through funding, support and partnerships with the health and medical research sector, academia and industry, the Office for Health and Medical Research (OHMR) fosters innovation, enables growth and drives meaningful collaboration to achieve greater efficiency, sustainability and equity in access and health outcomes.

Within OHMR is the Advanced Therapeutics team with the mission to support research and development of next-generation and precision therapies and accelerate their integration into the NSW health system. The Advanced Therapeutics team focuses on emerging technologies where NSW has established leadership or potential to transform health and economic outcomes for NSW.

This panel has been convened to highlight how to partner with Government to achieve greater impact , through:

* Horizon-scanning to identify strengths and opportunities
* Capability-building
* Infrastructure
* Informing policy and regulatory frameworks
* Health system preparedness



**To learn more:**

LinkedIn: NSW Medical Research

@MedResearchNSW

medicalresearch.nsw.gov.au

**Panel Chair:**

**Kerry Watts**

*****FANZCAP (Compound., Research) PhD candidate MPhil BPharm*

*Senior Project and Policy Officer, Training, Education and Regulatory Compliance for Advanced Therapeutics | Advanced Therapeutics | OHMR*

Ms. Kerry Watts is a consultant pharmacist and Senior Project and Policy Officer for Advanced Therapeutics at the NSW Health Ministry Office for Health and Medical Research. She is a PhD candidate and holds an MPhil in anticoagulation. Kerry is also an Advanced Australia Pharmacy (AdPha) Fellow and Co-Chair of the AdPha Compounding Leadership Committee. As the author of the NSW Health Policy Directive on the Preparation of Pharmaceutical and Advanced Therapeutic Products, Kerry collaborates closely with researchers and national regulatory bodies to expedite the regulation and translation of advanced therapeutics. She also supports health system preparedness to deliver these advanced therapeutics to patients as standard care.

**Panel members:**

**Dr Ruby CY Lin**
*Adjunct Professor | Deputy Director, Phage Australia*

*Centre for Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research*

**Dr Ruby Lin** is an Adjunct Professor in Genomics and Deputy Director of Phage Australia, where she leads multi‑stakeholder programs bridging science, policy, and innovation to accelerate the clinical translation of phage therapy. As one of the chief architects of Australia’s integrated phage therapy platform — encompassing national biobanking, genomics pipelines, and clinical coordination — she played a pivotal role in enabling the Standardised Treatment and Monitoring Protocol (STAMP). This platform delivers personalised, regulatory‑ready solutions to address antimicrobial resistance and supports scalable implementation across healthcare systems.

**Professor Branwen Morgan**

*Research Director / Minimising Antimicrobial Resistance Mission Lead, CSIRO*

*Adjunct Professor | University of Technology Sydney (UTS)*

Branwen Morgan PhD has held numerous senior roles that bridge academic institutions, government, publicly listed companies, and not-for-profit organisations. Branwen’s journey from molecular biologist to journalist, consultant, and influential science leader in antimicrobial resistance exemplifies the power and flexibility of a portfolio-based career in the life sciences sector. She is based at CSIRO where she formerly led the Minimising Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Mission. Together with her team, she significantly improved the visibility of AMR amongst policymakers, created new industry, research, and government connections, and catalysed millions of dollars of investment into antimicrobial resistance research. Their work emphasises the interconnections between antimicrobial use and resistance across the human, animal, and environmental sectors, addressing research implementation and policy barriers. She is an adjunct Professor at the University of Technology Sydney

*Photo credit is Joseph Byford.*

**Associate Professor Andrew Care**
*Director |* [*Biologics Innovation Facility (BIF)*](https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-science/abtc/biologics-innovation-facility/biologics-innovation-facility)

*Faculty of Science | University of Technology Sydney (UTS)*

Andrew Care is an Associate Professor at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and Director of the Biologics Innovation Facility (BIF), a GMP-like pilot plant for biopharmaceutical production. His research spans synthetic biology, nanomedicine, and biomanufacturing, with a focus on nanoparticle-based platforms for drug delivery and vaccinology.

Andrew leads strategic and operational activities at BIF, including R&D, contract manufacturing, and workforce training. He plays an active role in developing Australia’s much-needed GMP manufacturing workforce, serving as Director of GMP Training within the NSW RNA Research & Training Network (NSW RRTN), and contributing to national skills strategy via AusBiotech’s Catalyst Workforce Development Group and the NSW Government’s GMP Future Workforce Roundtable

**Associate Professor Sophie Stocker** *University of Sydney School of Pharmacy****,*** *Faculty of Medicine and Health*

Sophie Stocker is an Associate Professor at the School of Pharmacy, Sydney University, and holds appointments at St Vincent’s Hospital and Westmead Hospital, Sydney, Australia. Her career is distinguished by a diverse experience spanning industry, healthcare and academia, which uniquely positions her to address the complexities of patient care.

A/Prof Stocker’s research focuses on understanding variability in response to medicines and developing strategies to manage this variability to optimise patient care. She applies her expertise across multiple disciplines, including clinical pharmacology, pharmacogenomics, pharmacometrics, health service delivery and qualitative research to optimise medicine use across several therapeutic areas including anti-infectives, gout, diabetes and transplantation.

Nationally and internationally recognised for her leadership in the implementation of precision dosing software and other precision medicine approaches, A/Prof Stocker has made significant contributions to advancing individualised patient care. She has co-authored more than 120 papers and holds several committee positions in key scientific societies. Her leadership has been acknowledged nationally and internationally through prestigious awards, including the Victor Armstrong Young *Investigator Award (2022), and the CERTARA Young Investigator and the APSA Emerging Leader Award (2020).*