

Rebecca Ritchie

Professor Ritchie [FASCEPT, FISHR, FCSANZ; FAHA] is Professor and **Head of Drug Discovery Biology** (Theme Leader) and **Head of Heart Failure Pharmacology** in the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), Monash University. Prof Ritchie is a cardiac pharmacologist internationally-recognised for her **translational research focused on arresting the progression of heart failure** – particularly as a result of diabetes, MI and more recently, HFpEF. Her career spans discovery, preclinical & clinical research, enabled by long-term collaborations across Monash, the Victorian Heart Institute & the Baker Heart & Diabetes Institute.

Rebecca completed her undergraduate and PhD studies at the University of Adelaide. Her PhD focused on predictors of myocardial function in vivo in patients with ischaemic heart disease, including development of the first quantitative model of the force-interval relationship in human myocardium. Her postdoctoral training — Wayne State University 1995–97, USA and the Florey Institute 1997–2002 — preceded her recruitment to the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute in late 2002. During her 17 years at the Baker, she was promoted to lab head (2008), Chair of Science Faculty (2017) and to the institute's Management Round Table (2017). In late 2019, she was recruited to Monash University (together with her Heart Failure Pharmacology team) to continue her program of heart failure research, and to lead the Drug Discovery Biology Theme (a head of unit role).

The research achievements of Professor Ritchie to date include 161 publications in leading international journals (>10,000 citations, H index 54, GS) and continuous peer-reviewed funding since 1999 (comprising support from NHMRC, MRFF, Diabetes Australia and the Heart Foundation, in addition to industry collaborations including CSL). Her contributions to cardiac pharmacology and to professional scientific organisations have been recognised by the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT), International Society of Heart Research (ISHR), American Heart Association (AHA), Hypertension Australia, Diabetes Australia, Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ) and the British Pharmacology Society (BPS).

Her current external professional commitments include Deputy Chair of the Victorian Cardiovascular Research Network Steering Committee and the Scientific Program Co-Chair of the 2026 IUPHAR World Congress of Pharmacology. as well as serving on the ISHR International Council, the Victorian Heart Institute Research Leadership Committee, and the Scientific Committees of CAD Frontiers, the ACvA and CSANZ.