

## mRNA Series One / Lecture One

### GUEST SPEAKERS

#### Rachel Sciascia

##### Legal Practitioner Director, Deloitte Legal



With degrees in law and science, Rachel has extensive experience in intellectual property, information and communications technology and corporate and commercial law matters. Rachel acts for a broad range of clients across large multi-national corporations, government, statutory bodies and public and private companies.

Rachel is particularly well-known for her expertise in drafting, negotiating and advising on the protection, commercialisation and use of all types of intellectual property, particularly involving complex combinations of technologies.

She is an expert in corporate structures and commercial arrangements involving the development and exploitation of intellectual property.

Rachel has been named in a range of legal lists for her intellectual property expertise.

#### Dr Patricia Vietheer

##### Director, R&D Strategy & Planning, Biointelect



Patricia Vietheer has over 18 years of scientific experience in the Life Sciences industry. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree with First Class Honours from University of Queensland and a PhD in Microbiology at Monash University. She also holds an MBA majoring in Strategy & Planning at Deakin University. In 2015, Patricia completed the Molecules to Medicine Internship on Commercialization.

A specialist in infectious diseases, molecular biology and viral immunology, Patricia's career began in the research laboratory working on the preclinical evaluation of a versatile vaccine platform collaborating with industry. She has since held a range of roles in research; business development, project management and program development where she has helped translate scientific ideas into public health solutions. Patricia's deep experience in early-stage preclinical R&D especially in vaccine development, technology transfer and in vivo animal studies, has been instrumental in project planning and execution often working in cross-discipline, multi-country projects driving projects towards successful outcomes. At Biointelect, Patricia supports clients with their commercialisation strategies and streamlining their path to market.

Patricia has been a recipient of multiple awards including the NHMRC Dora Lush BioMedical Award, Australian Defence Force Prince of Wales Award and the Australian Centre for HIV & Hepatitis Virology Young Investigator's Award. She has made substantial contribution to numerous granted patents, co-authored multiple scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals and has presented at numerous national and international conferences.

**Dr James Patterson**

**Executive Director Manufacturing, mRNA Victoria**



James Patterson is the Executive Director of Manufacturing at mRNA Victoria. James is responsible for delivering the mRNA development and manufacturing capabilities to support the Victorian ecosystem. He has expertise in small molecule, monoclonal antibody and oligonucleotide preclinical development, evaluating pharmaceutical investment opportunities, leading matrix teams, and managing product lifecycle activities.

Prior to joining the public sector, James worked in the pharmaceutical industry for over 20 years. James has a PhD in pharmaceutical science from Otago University. This opportunity was supported by the Otago University/Vernon Tews Educational Trust scholarship to conduct an industrial placement at GlaxoSmithKline in the UK. Following graduation, James worked at GSK as a scientist across UK and US markets as a principal investigator. James relocated to Melbourne in 2010 and has worked as Technical Director for Business Development for GSK across several markets in Asia Pacific. James also serves as a peer reviewer for several scientific journals.