Regulation of immune responses in skin by proliferating epithelium

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BIO
Professor Ian Frazer AC, Australian of the Year 2006 and co-inventor of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine, is the Chief Executive Officer and Director of Research of Translational Research Institute (TRI). In this role, Professor Frazer heads an expert cohort of over 650 researchers from four leading medical research institutes. Born in Glasgow and educated in Edinburgh, Scotland, Professor Frazer gained his BSc in 1974 and MBBS in 1977. In early 1981, Professor Frazer and his family immigrated to Australia where he joined the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne as a viral immunologist.

In 1985, he moved to the University of Queensland where he continued his work on the human papilloma virus (HPV). He received his MD in 1988. In 1989, Frazer along with Doctors Jian Zhou and Xiao-Yi Sun succeeded in constructing a virus-like particle resembling the outer coat of the HPV from which a vaccine was successfully made. The vaccine sold worldwide under the brand names Gardasil and Cervarix, completely protects unexposed women from HPV, which is responsible for 70% of cervical cancers.

RESEARCH
Skin is subject to extensive assault by micro-organisms and viruses. Epithelial proliferation as part of wound repair results in an anti-inflammatory environment, limiting T cell mediated damage to ensure appropriate skin repair following infection. The presentation will discuss the multiple mechanisms that regulate local immune response in skin and their influence by induced epithelial proliferation.

PROFESSOR CHEV KIDSON
Professor Chev Kidson was the fourth Director of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (now QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute) from 1978 to 1990. Professor Kidson’s vision was for the Institute’s research to contribute to issues of global disease, taking a particular interest in conditions afflicting the developing world. Professor Kidson came to the Institute following his role as Foundation Professor of Medical Biochemistry at The University of Queensland.