

## Controversies in epilepsy

Wednesday 2 November

9:00am - 1:00pm

## The future of epilepsy

Friday 4 November

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Griffith University  
South Bank Campus –  
Ian Hanger Recital Hall  
(Conservatorium)



Professor Orrin Devinsky  
Professor of Neurology,  
Neurosurgery, and  
Psychiatry New York Uni  
School of Medicine

COMPLEMENTARY  
THERAPIES IN EPILEPSY



Baroness Susan Greenfield CBE  
Professor of Pharmacology  
University of Oxford

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF  
THE BRAIN



Professor Helen Cross  
Head of Neuroscience  
Unit UCL Institute of Child  
Health, London

DIETARY THERAPIES IN  
EPILEPSY

# 2011 Queensland Epilepsy Symposia



## Thinking outside the box!

Sponsors:



Partner organisations:



# Program

Details subject to change without notice

## Controversies in Epilepsy

Wednesday 2 November 2011

9:00am	<b>Opening by Mrs Julie Attwood MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health, representing the Hon. Geoff Wilson MP, Minister for Health</b>	
9:00am - 10:00am	<b>Complementary Therapies in Epilepsy</b> (Live & interactive via videolink)	Professor Orrin Devinsky
10:00am - 11:00am	<b>Treating Seizures is Bad for your Health - Debate</b>	Professor Harry McConnell – Moderator <i><b>Affirmative team</b></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Professor John Dunne</li><li>• Associate Professor Ernie Somerville</li><li>• Dr Nicholas Lawn</li></ul> <i><b>Negative team</b></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Professor Roy Beran</li><li>• Dr Dan McLaughlin</li><li>• Professor Graeme Jackson</li></ul>
11:00am - 11:30am	<b>Local service developments St Vincent's Hospital Brisbane</b>	Professor Harry McConnell
	<b>Epilepsy Research at the Centre for Advanced Imaging</b>	Professor David Reutens
11:30am - 12:00pm	<b>Break</b>	
12:00pm - 1:00pm	<b>The Private Life of the Brain</b>	Baroness Susan Greenfield
1:00pm	<b>Close</b>	

## The future of Epilepsy

Friday - 4 November 2011

1:00pm	<b>Opening by Ms Di Farmer MP, Member for Bulimba, representing the Hon. Curtis Pitt, Minister for Disability Services, Mental Health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</b>	
1:00pm - 2:00pm	<b>Dietary Therapies</b>	Professor Helen Cross
2:00pm - 2:45pm	<b>Specific Gene Testing</b>	Professor Ingrid Scheffer
2:45pm - 3:10pm	<b>Break</b>	
3:10pm - 5:00pm	<b>The Future of Epilepsy Introduction</b>	Wally Lewis
	<b>Future Research for Epilepsy: How to Address the Treatment Gap</b>	Professor Terry O'Brien
	<b>Surgery for Epilepsy</b>	Dr Stephen Malone
	<b>Risks with Generics</b>	Professor Roy Beran
5:00pm	<b>Close</b>	

# Queensland Epilepsy Symposia 2011 Speakers



**Professor Helen Cross** is the Prince of Wales's Chair of Childhood Epilepsy at UCL-Institute of Child Health, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London and the National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy, Lingfield, UK. She has research interests in early onset complex epilepsy, particularly outcomes and the role of intervention, including surgery and the ketogenic diet. She was Chair of the ILAE Commission for Paediatrics 2005-2009. She is now Co-Chair of the Task Force of the Global Campaign and is a member of the ILAE Commission for European Affairs. She is also currently Clinical Advisor to the current review of the NICE guidelines for Epilepsy.



**Professor Orrin Devinsky** is Professor of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry at New York University School of Medicine. His research interests include surgical therapy, new medications, new devices to treat seizures, organising collaborative translational research efforts, quality of life, cognitive and behavioural function in children and adults, and functional localization. He has published widely in epilepsy and behavioural neurology. One of the books that he's edited is "Complementary and Alternative Therapies for Epilepsy" for physicians and others. It bridges the worlds of traditional medicine and other therapies. He encourages patients to safely continue their medical management program. Professor Devinsky is currently collaborating with Ruben Kuzniecky and Nandor Ludvig on developing a device to deliver anti-epileptic drugs directly to the brain to treat seizures. The device has been tested in rodents and primates. Orrin co-founded epilepsy.com and the Epilepsy Therapy Project with Warren Lammert. He is the past President of the Epilepsy Research Foundation and has served on boards of the American Epilepsy Society and the Epilepsy Foundation. Orrin will be presenting via live video-link and there will be a half hour allocated to questions and discussion.



**Baroness Susan Greenfield** is Professor of Pharmacology at Oxford University and a neuroscientist, writer, and broadcaster. She has been awarded 30 Honorary Degrees from British and foreign universities and heads a multi-disciplinary research group exploring novel brain mechanisms linked to neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. In addition, she has published a neuroscientific theory of consciousness (The Private Life of the Brain 2003) and developed an interest in the impact of 21st Century technologies on how young people think and feel, as discussed in her book ID: The Quest for Identity in the 21st Century (2008).

In 1998 she received the Michael Faraday Medal from the Royal Society, was awarded a CBE in the Millennium New Year's Honours List, and granted a non-political Life Peerage in 2001. In 2000 she was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and in 2007 to an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. She was appointed Chancellor of Heriot Watt University in 2005. Further recognition of her work includes L'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur from the French Government, and the American Academy of Achievement Golden Plate Award, both received in 2003, as well as the Australian Medical Research Society Medal, which was awarded in 2010.



**Professor Roy Beran** is a consultant neurologist with a long history of involvement in epilepsy related research and appointments. Since 2002 he has been Conjoint Associate Professor, Dept of Medicine, South West Sydney Clinical School, University of New South Wales and more recently has been Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine, Griffith University, Queensland. His interests are broad and include Health, Law & Ethics, Epilepsy, Neurological Therapies, Rehabilitation, and Sleep Disorders. He wears many hats in these fields.



**Professor John Dunne** is from the Departments of Medicine and Surgery, University of Western Australia and Chairman, Western Australian Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology Services Networks. Internationally, he is Secretary General, Commission on Asian and Oceanian Affairs, International League Against Epilepsy. Professor Dunne is also Chairman, EEG and Clinical Neurophysiology Committee, Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists and Australian delegate to the International Federation of Clinical Neurophysiology. He says his most important role is father of four beautiful children.



**Professor Graeme Jackson** is the Deputy Director of the Florey Neuroscience Institutes and Director of the Brain Research Institute Australia. He is recognized as an expert and authority in new MR technologies, particularly in the field of animal and human studies of epilepsy. Graeme holds a number of other positions, both clinical and academic. He is a Professorial Fellow of the Department of Medicine, Austin Health, University of Melbourne. He was awarded the National Health & Medical Research Council Excellence Award in 2008.



**Wally Lewis** is one of Australia's sporting icons. He played football for many years, representing Australia in 33 international matches and was national team captain from 1984 to 1991. He received many prestigious awards and is widely regarded as the greatest Rugby League player of all time.

His profile in sport has been maintained as a sports commentator for the Nine Network (TV).

On the nightly news in 2006 Wally had a seizure on air. His epilepsy was suddenly in the spotlight. The intense public interest meant that many thousands of people learnt about epilepsy. Wally had successful surgery in 2007 and ever since has been a tireless advocate for people with epilepsy. His book "Out of the Shadows: A Champion's Return to the Spotlight" details his inspirational journey. Wally is Patron of Epilepsy Queensland.



**Professor Harry McConnell** is a Neuropsychiatrist with over 25 years experience and particular expertise in epilepsy. Before medical school, Professor McConnell worked in special education and also in activities such as the Special Olympics and related recreational programmes for people with acquired and developmental brain disorders. Professor McConnell studied Psychology and completed both medical school and a fellowship in chronic pain management in the USA.

# Queensland Epilepsy Symposia 2011 Speakers

He subsequently directed the Behavioural Epilepsy Programme at Allegheny Neuropsychiatric Institute and the Medical College of Pennsylvania. When the Institute of Epileptology opened at King's College in London, he relocated to work there and did both research and clinical work at the Centre for Epilepsy in London in association with the Institute.

Professor McConnell is the Clinical Subdean at Gold Coast District Health Services and Griffith University School of Medicine where he is also Professor of Neuropsychiatry and Neurodisability. Professor McConnell has been the Deputy Chair of the Queensland Council for Disability and is the Chair of the Queensland state-wide Working Group for Neuropsychiatry and Intellectual Disability. He has been a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (in Psychiatry, Division of Medicine) since 1992 and has recently obtained his Fellowship with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists on the basis of his seniority and international eminence.



**Dr Dan McLaughlin** is a Brisbane based Neurologist specialising in seizure disorders of adolescents and adults. After graduating from medicine with second class honours at the University of Queensland, Dr McLaughlin completed a specialist fellowship in Neurology through the FRACP. He then undertook PhD studies in Neuropharmacology under the supervision of Professor Mervyn Eadie, a world leading expert in the Neuropharmacology of anti-epileptic drugs. With over fifteen years experience in clinical trials of newer anti-epileptic drugs, Dr McLaughlin is an active Committee Member of the Epilepsy Society of Australia.



**Dr Stephen Malone** is a Staff Specialist Neurologist and Epileptologist at the Royal Children's Hospital, Brisbane. He trained in neurology and epilepsy at the Royal Children's Hospitals in Brisbane and in Melbourne, and at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. He completed joint fellowships in Paediatric Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology at the Miami Children's Hospital, USA. He is a member of the Queensland Paediatric Epilepsy Network, and has a special interest in Childhood Epilepsies, in particular Epilepsy Surgery in Childhood.



**Professor Terence O'Brien** is The James Stewart Professor of Medicine and Head of The Department of Medicine, The Royal Melbourne Hospital, and Head of the Epilepsy Program and consultant neurologist at The Royal Melbourne Hospital. He leads a large translational research team undertaking both basic studies, involving animal models, and clinical studies. He is a specialist in neurology and clinical pharmacology, with particular expertise in epileptology, anti-epileptic drugs and in-vivo imaging in animal models and humans. He did his clinical and research training at St. Vincent's and Royal Melbourne Hospital in Melbourne, and then the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (1995-1998).



**Professor Ingrid Scheffer** is a paediatric neurologist and epileptologist and senior research fellow at the Florey Neuroscience Institutes and the departments of medicine and paediatrics at the University of Melbourne, Australia. Her work, together with Professor Sam Berkovic and the molecular geneticists at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, has led the field of epilepsy genetics over the last 19 years. This collaboration has resulted in identification of the first epilepsy gene and 13 of the 23 genes currently known. Professor Scheffer has described five new epilepsy syndromes and continues to work on genotype-phenotype correlation, classification of the epilepsies, outcome and new treatments. Her research interests include genetics of epilepsy, epilepsy syndrome classification, novel anti-epileptic therapies including the ketogenic diet and autism spectrum disorders. She was awarded the highest accolade in epilepsy research, the 2007 American Epilepsy Society Clinical Research Recognition Award, and the 2009 Eric Susman Prize from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. Professor Scheffer is currently Chair of the International League Against Epilepsy Commission for Classification and Terminology.



**Professor David Reutens** is the inaugural director of the Centre for Advanced Imaging (CAI) and Foundation Professor of Experimental Neurology at The University of Queensland. Prior to this he was the Professor of Neuroscience at Monash University and Director of Neurology at Southern Health. As a clinical neurologist Prof Reutens specializes in epilepsy and is a senior staff specialist at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. Professor Reutens' research involves the combination of imaging techniques to study functions such as memory in the healthy brain, the mechanisms behind diseases such as epilepsy and stroke and how the brain responds to overcome injury. Some of the research studies involve patients with injuries or genetic mutations that affect brain function – these studies are able to provide privileged insights into how the brain works. He directs the Australian Mouse Brain Mapping Consortium. With his collaborators, he uses imaging to study animal models of disease. Members of his group are working on ways of improving imaging technology.



**Associate Professor Ernest Somerville** is Director of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Service of the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney and Associate Professor at the University of New South Wales. Ernie established the epilepsy surgery program at Westmead Hospital in Sydney and became head of the Prince of Wales program in 2003. He has been an investigator on numerous AED clinical trials. He set up the Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists Annual Course in Clinical EEG. He has lectured extensively in Australia and Asia. Research interests include clinical epilepsy, EEG, epilepsy in developing countries and seizure aggravation by anti-epileptic drugs. He is a Past President of the Epilepsy Society of Australia and chairs its Driving Committee. In 2009, he received an Ambassador for Epilepsy Award from the International League Against Epilepsy and the International Bureau for Epilepsy.

