

“Gene expression regulation in the brain in health and disease.”

Speaker: Irina Voineagu, Scientia Associate Professor, School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, UNSW



Abstract:

Behavioral and neuropsychiatric traits are genetically complex and associated primarily with non-coding variants located in regulatory regions that control gene expression. Thousands of candidate distal regulatory regions (i.e. enhancers) have been mapped in human brain tissue based on biochemical properties such as open chromatin state and chromatin post-translational modifications. However, the functional validation of these candidate regions and linking enhancers to their target genes remains challenging.

This talk will discuss our recent high-throughput CRISPRi screen of enhancers in human glial cells, and novel evidence for the role ZMYND8, a transcriptional regulator that controls enhancer activity, in intellectual disability.

All welcome!

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